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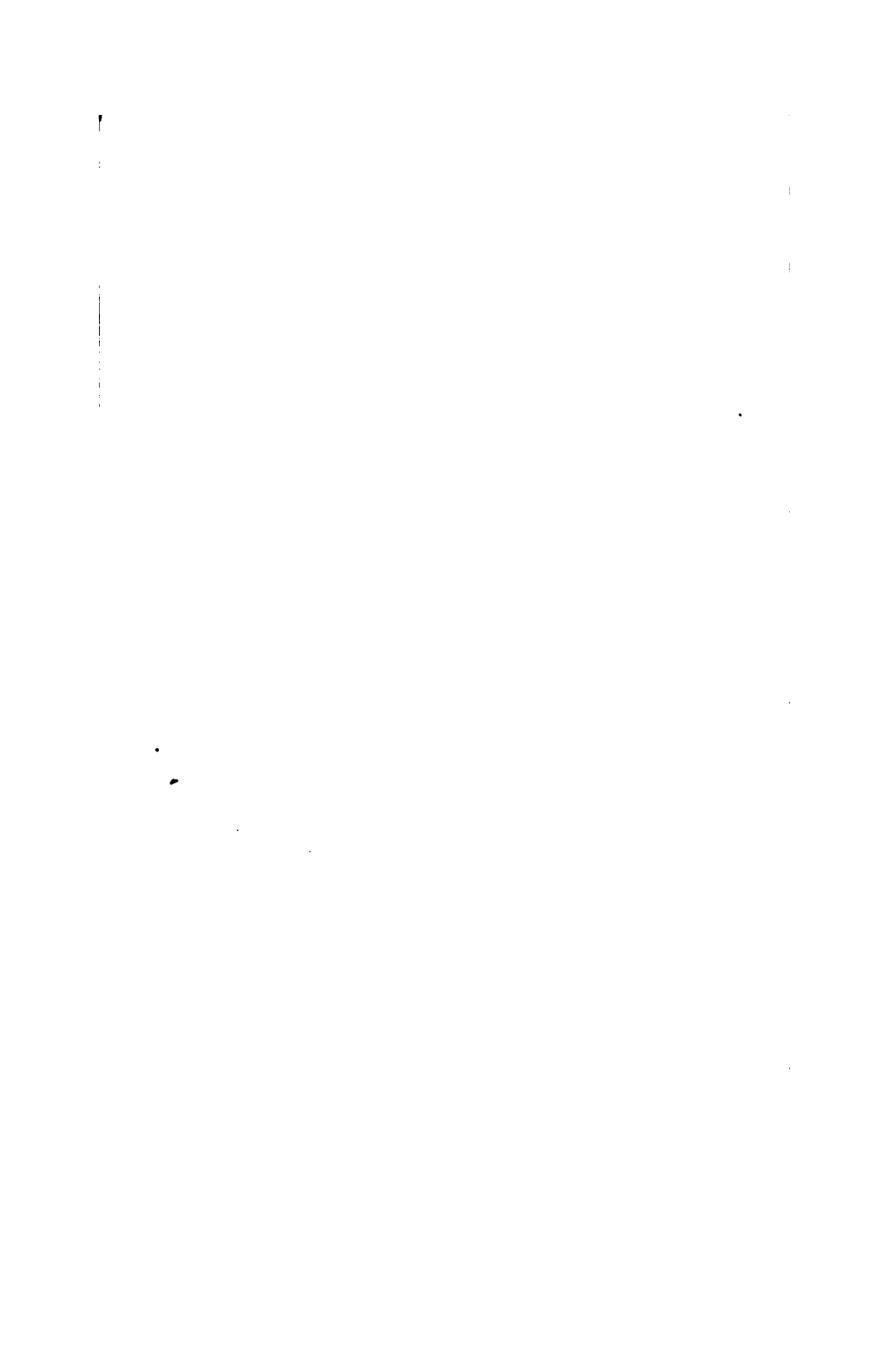
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HANDBOOK
FOR
SHROPSHIRE, CHESHIRE,
AND
LANCASHIRE.

WITH MAP.



JOHN MURRAY, ALBEMARLE STREET.

1870.

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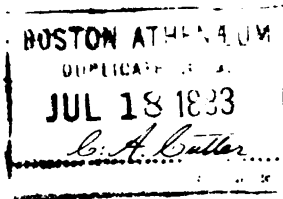
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P R E F A C E.

A HANDBOOK which embraces such a large section of England as the *Handbook for Shropshire, Cheshire, and Lancashire*, extending from the South Welsh mountains to those of Cumberland, from the Severn nearly to the Solway, must needs contain some inaccuracies—and especially in the manufacturing districts, where changes occur so much more rapidly than in others.

New railways are made, factories spring up, villages become towns, and large populations are gathered together with a speed that would have been incredible a few years ago.

The Editor will feel obliged to any Correspondent who will forward to him additional information or corrections, to care of Mr. MURRAY, 50, Albemarle Street.

August, 1870.

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INTRODUCTION.

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I.—PHYSICAL GEOGRAPHY AND GEOLOGY.

I.—SHROPSHIRE.

SHROPSHIRE, as viewed from its physical aspect, is well fitted for its position on the Marches of Wales: the Welsh portion possessing all the features of a mountain-land; the English, of fertile plain and rich farming country. There is so much variety in Salop that it may be considered an epitome of England, for it contains, within the compass of a few miles, all the characteristics of an Alpine district in miniature, while at the same time within sight of orchards, gardens, and farmhouses.

From this very variety of scenery, which, of course, depends mostly on the geological formation, Shropshire has come to be regarded as a typical district by the geologist, who will find within its borders a complete history of the Palæozoic formation. The mountain-region is principally found on the Welsh, or western side. On the S., the Radnorshire hills are continuous with the Forest of Clun, from whence the high grounds run, with but little intermission, into the noble range of the Longmynd and the Stiperstones, the latter keeping up the connection with the mountains of Montgomeryshire, and the former abruptly ending at the beautiful valley of Church Stretton. On the other side this valley is the equally picturesque, though not so lofty, series of Hope Bowdler, Caradoc, Ragleath, and Lawley, separating the Church Stretton valley from Apedale, which joins it lower down at an acute angle, and is sheltered on the E. by the very characteristic ridge of Wenlock Edge. The latter commences, near Craven Arms, in a series of very striking wooded terraces, and runs diagonally across Shropshire until it is brought up by the great gap of the Severn Valley, near Coalbrook Dale. To the E. of it is Corve Dale, from whence hilly, un-

dulating ground extends for the remainder of the distance to the Severn, and even beyond it, to the Staffordshire border. The chief scenic features in this district are the isolated upthrows of the Clees Hills, which are landmarks for many a mile.

The Brown Clees is the most northerly and the highest, and is connected with its fellow, the Titterstone Clees and Hoar Edge, by a ridge, which on one side overlooks Ludlow and the Vale of Teme, on the other, the broken country of the Forest of Wyre :—

"Those mountains of commande,
The Clees, like loving twinnes, and Stitterstone that stand
Transevered."—*Drayton*.

To the N. of the Stiperstones is the valley of the Rea, and a gradually-diminishing series of hills, which merge into the valley of the Severn between Welshpool and Shrewsbury. Generally speaking, the districts N. and E. of the Severn, which cuts Shropshire into two tolerably equal divisions, are of English character, although the surface is repeatedly interrupted by sudden upthrows of trap, such as the Wrekin and Haughmond Hill. The former is a curved ridge, of somewhat ungainly shape, but with beautiful wood-fringed sides, and sends off to the N. lower spurs to Lilleshall and Donnington, and to the S. those of Coalbrook Dale. Between Wellington and the Cheshire border (the course of the Great Western Railway to Nantwich) is the basin of the Tern, a level, richly-cultivated district, broken only by the wooded heights of Hawkstone. The same character of surface is maintained as far as Oswestry, where the ground begins to rise again, the outposts of the great mountain-country of Merionethshire and Denbighshire, which at Sweeny Hill and Llynclys afford scenery of considerable beauty. One great characteristic of the Shropshire plain should be mentioned, viz., its *meres*, some of which are sufficiently large to justify their being called lakes. They are to be found in great numbers, scarcely a parish or gentleman's park being without them. The water-basin of Shropshire is altogether that of the Severn and its tributaries. That noble river itself, in its course through the county, passes through great variety of scenery : from the stately, placid stream between Shrewsbury and Cressage, gliding through rich pasture-land, to the fretted rapid between the wooded heights of Coalbrook Dale and Benthall Edge, during which passage its elevation is reduced some 40 feet. The Rea and the Tern are the two principal tributaries in the northern part of the county, the south being watered by the Onny, the Corve, and the Teme, the latter of which does not join the Severn for a considerable distance after it has emerged from Shropshire.

The geology of Shropshire is still more diversified than the scenery, and is of the highest interest to the scientific observer, who may read from its stone volume the condition of the very earliest rocks that form the crust of the earth. Thanks to the labours of Sir Roderick Murchison, the late Mr. Salter, Professor Ramsay, and that hardworking body of local geologists which compose the Woolhope Club, these intricate decipherings have been clearly made out, so that he who runs may read. In the Longmynd we have the representation of the Cambrian rocks, forming, as

it were, the axis upon which the more recent Silurian strata were deposited. It forms a range of deeply-ravined mountains, varying in height from 1400 to 1600 feet, and standing boldly out from the neighbouring hills. The lowest beds are formed of "schists, or clay slates, with minute layers of Silurian limestone, interrupted by bosses of eruptive trap-rock, and overlaid by a vast and regular series of hard purple, greenish, and gray schistose flagstones, often finely laminated and ripple-marked." For years and years the bottom rocks of the Longmynd were considered as utterly lifeless, and were pointed to as the zone at which all life, even of the most minute description, ceased; but the diligent researches of the late Mr. Salter revealed at last the presence of annelid burrows, analogous to the lobworm of the present day. The vast thickness of these rocks was considered by Professor Ramsay to be 26,000 feet; but Mr. Salter, from subsequent examinations, believed that this computation should be reduced one-half, owing to the doubling of the strata upon themselves. One great feature of the Longmynd is the transverse dells, or "gutters," as they are locally called, the origin of which has given rise to much discussion: some geologists considering that they are the work of river-excavation, while others hold that they are due to the action of the sea. The Stiperstones, to the W. of the Longmynd, are marked by a ridge of quartzose rocks on their summit, which denotes the division between the *Lingula Flags* on the E. slopes and the *Llandeilo* beds on the W. The former are the equivalents of the Tremadoc beds of North Wales; but, as regards the latter, Mr. Salter considered that the rocks immediately on the W. of the Stiperstones were rather of Arenig than Llandeilo age. At all events, whatever they are, they appear to constitute the natural base of the Llandeilo rocks of the Shelve and Corndon district. These upper and lower Llandeilo rocks extend over the remaining portion of Shropshire into Montgomeryshire, interrupted only by the outburst of the trap-rocks of Corndon Hill, which have caused beds of volcanic ash to be interposed between strata containing organic remains. On the W. side of the Longmynd, therefore, is a regular sequence of Silurian strata; but on the E. a different state of things prevails. Here the *Lingula* and *Llandeilo* beds are absent, while the *Caradoc* occupies the ground, in the centre of which rise the igneous chains of Ragleath, Hope Bowdler, Caer Caradoc, and Lawley, which stand upon a line of upheaval marked by one of the largest faults in England. By this fault the upper strata have been cut off from the lower, and the Caradoc has been deposited on the edge of the Cambrian. From hence these rocks extend northwards beyond the valley of the Severn above Buildwas; southwards, to the valley of the Teme and occupying a portion of that of the Onny, where they are seen with the overlying May Hill, or *Llandovery* rocks. These latter extend to Buildwas and the base of the Wrekin, and are observable also at Hope, reposing unconformably on rounded bosses of trap and Llandeilo rock. Another small patch of Llandovery rock is seen at Linley and Norbury, as well as on the E. flank and the S. extremity of the Longmynd, seeming as though the Longmynd had been an island, on the slopes of which these conglomerates had been thrown down from the debris of existing rocks.

Overlying the Caradoc and Llandovery beds is the *Wenlock*, forming a line of hills that run diagonally across Shropshire from the Severn at Coalbrook Dale to near Ludlow. Coalbrook Dale itself is scooped out of Wenlock Shale, and its entrance into the Severn valley is guarded by Lincoln Hill, also Wenlock limestone, with carboniferous measures reposing on it.

On the S.E. slopes of Wenlock Edge are the Upper and Lower *Ludlow*, separated by the Aymestry limestone, which is well developed near Stokesay, but thins out towards Wenlock. To the Ludlow beds succeed the *Downton* sandstone and the *Old Red*, the latter of which occupies the area between Corve Dale and a line drawn S. from Bridgnorth through Leasowea, Old Hay, and Harpswood. The cornstone beds form notably good wheatland. Southwards, the Old Red is continuous with that of Herefordshire interrupted only by the Cleve Hills. To the N. and W. of Wenlock Edge it has been a good deal denuded and broken up, leaving only some isolated patches, such as Clun Forest. As in Herefordshire, the Old Red of Shropshire is of great interest to the geologist, from the frequency and variety of fish remains.

The *carboniferous* measures, though collectively occupying no very large area, are interesting from the character and relations of the subordinate beds. The *Shrewsbury* coal-field extends in a narrow strip, in shape something like a syphon, from the base of Haughmond Hill to Alberbury, on the banks of the upper Severn, a distance of 18 m., and has the peculiarity of possessing neither millstone-grit nor mountain-limestone, the coalmeasures resting directly on the Silurian rocks. Superficially, it is overlaid by Lower Permian strata, surmounted, as at Alberbury and Cardeston by a remarkable stratified breccia, composed of angular fragments of white quartz and carboniferous limestone, cemented by calcareo-ferruginous paste."—*Hull*. The coal-field is chiefly remarkable for the presence of a band of estuarine limestone, with freshwater shells, which is curiously persistent over a large area, and is always found associated with the upper coalmeasures. As a coal-field the Shrewsbury field is valueless. The same may be said of the *Lebotwood* field, which extends from the base of Caer Caradoc to the north side of the Longmynd. The *Coalbrook Dale* field is very different, both in interest and value. It is an irregular triangle in form, having its most northerly point at Lilleshall, its most southerly at Coalport, and its base along the valley of the Severn. On the W. it is bounded by the fault which lets in the New Red, and on the E. by a narrow strip of Permian. Coalbrook Dale itself, as has been observed, is scooped out of Wenlock shale; but the Lightmoor hollow, up which the railway has been carried, is excavated in the lower coalmeasures, which are faulted down. This Lightmoor fault, traverses the coalfield from N. to S., and has a downthrow of about 100 yards, and to the W. of it the coal-beds are almost exhausted. E. of these coalmeasures, Earl Granville has sunk successful shafts through the Permian rocks, and the coal has been found in regular sequence, though in other parts of the field they disappear or change their character within a very short space. According to Mr. Hull, the area of the basin

is 28 square m., containing 27 ft. of workable coal, which, at the rate that it is now being exhausted, will soon come to an end, unless fresh extensions are made under the Permian or New Red.

The *Forest of Wyre* coalfield is another of the unproductive ones, although superficially of great size. It extends from the northern end of the Abberley hills, near Stourport, in Worcestershire, to several miles beyond Bewdley and Cleobury Mortimer, narrowing at its northern end to a thin strip bordering the west bank of the Severn. The coalmeasures repose on the Old Red, and are overlaid by thick Permian shale. The beds belonging to the upper measures are, generally speaking, not of much value, and vary in number from one workable seam (at Arley) to three (near Cleobury). A sinking at Shatterford of 450 yards met with a few beds of poor coals, and finally terminated in a mass of greenstone. The coalfield of the *Clee Hills* is particularly interesting, from the fact of its having been pierced by an outburst of basalt, which has spread over it, and forms the basaltic head of the Titterstone Clee. The measures, two or three in number, are nearly horizontal, and the shafts by which they are reached pierce the basaltic strata. It is curious that of all these coalfields, none of the beds rest on the grit or limestone, owing to their absence. In the case of the Cleees, the coals rest on the Old Red, but on the N. and W. sides of the hills are both grit and limestone, the latter, at Oreton and Farlow, being the equivalents of the yellow sandstone, and abounding in fish remains. The carboniferous strata of Shropshire should not be dismissed without mention of Sweeny Hill, near Oswestry, which comes within the geographical pale of the county, though geologically it forms a portion of the Flintshire basin. The millstone grit here is unusually interesting, from its fossiliferous character, a very unusual feature in this formation.

To the coalmeasures succeeds the *Permian*, which is of some economic value in Shropshire, on account of its fringing the coalfields. To the E. of Coalbrook Dale these beds have been successfully pierced down to the coalmeasures. The breccia which borders the Shrewsbury coalfield is considered by Mr. Hull to be the remnant of an old shingle beach, composed of carboniferous and Silurian rocks. The district between Shrewsbury and Haughmond Hill consists of a thick Permian deposit of red ferruginous clay, interspersed with boulders, and out of this plain rises Haughmond Hill itself, a compact mass of uninterrupted greenstone traceable to Uffington, and flanked by dark purple Cambrian grit.

The *New Red*, or Triassic, occupies nearly all the remaining area of the county, including the district E. of the Severn, between Bridgnorth and Wolverhampton, and that between Shrewsbury, Ellesmere, Newport, and Market Drayton.

Bridgnorth is the best locality for studying the new red, very fine sections being met with in the conglomerate, or pebble bed. Between the eruptive bosses of Haughmond and the Wrekin is the Triassic basin of the Tern, which Miss Eyton believes to have been an ancient lake-basin, denuded by glacial and marine action. The beds are those of the lower

Bunter, though the banks of the river are lined by thick deposits of shingle.

There is a small pear-shaped patch of *Lias* between Wem and Audlem, extending for a short distance into Cheshire. The *eruptive* rocks have already been mentioned in the respective districts which they have influenced, such as the Clee Hills, Corndon Mountain, the Caradoc ranges, Haughmond Hill, and the Wrekin, with the low line of trap hills extending by Ketley, Donnington Wood, and Lilleshall. These latter are co-extensive with the line of fault that separates the Bunter sandstone from the basin of Coalbrook Dale.

The geologist will find Salop an admirable district for studying the phenomena of the *drift gravels*, sands, and clays which in the Severn valley particularly attain great importance. The glacial drift of Stretchill, at the entrance of Coalbrook Dale, proves that at that era Wenlock Edge was the coast line, and the Severn valley a marine strait. All the way down to Bridgnorth there are terraces of gravel and shingle. The basin of the Tern, too, shows deposits of low-level gravel, dating from the time when the Weald Moors were a lake.

The geologist visiting Shropshire should study Sir R. Murchison's 'Siluria,' Prestwich's 'Coalbrook Dale' (Trans. Geol. Soc.), the 'Transactions of the Woolhope Field Club,' Eyton's 'Denudation of Shropshire,' &c.

LOCALITIES INTERESTING TO THE GEOLOGIST.

The *Longmynd*.—Cambrian rocks at Church Stretton, Carding-mill section. Arenicolites.

Stiperstones.—Quartzites and Lingula flags, with fossils.

Shelve.—Lower and Upper Llandeilo beds.

Corndon Mountain.—Trap upthrow, interspersed with fossiliferous beds and volcanic ashes.

Lower Silurians (all fossiliferous) at *Rorrington, Snailbeach, Middle-town, &c.*

All this district can be best explored by staying at the Gravel Inn.

Caradoc beds at *Cardington, Chatwall, and Soudley.*

Caradoc of *Marshbrook, Acton Scott, and Minton.*

Onny Valley (Craven Arms).—Caradoc strata overlaid by Llandovery rocks. Beds at *Horderley* and *Cheney Longville.*

Wenlock shales and limestone at *Coalbrook Dale. Benthall Edge* and *Wenlock Edge* very fossiliferous.

Ludlow Rocks and Bone-bed, Downton Sandstone near *Ludlow, Mary Knoll, Leintwardine, Pedwardine* (star fishes), &c.

Section from Wenlock to Old Red at *Linley.*

Old Red Cornstones, with Pteraspis, Cephalaspis, and Eurypterus near *Ludlow, Whitbatch, Hopton, Bouldon, Downton.*

Yellow Sandstone at *Farlow*, plants, and fish remains.

Mountain Limestone at *Oreton*, with fish teeth.

Mountain Limestone at *Sweeney Hill.*

Millstone grit (fossiliferous) at *Llyncllys.*

Clee Hills.—Coalmeasures, overlaid by Basalt.

Coalbrook Dale.—Coalmeasures and ironstones; very productive in coal fossils.

Shrewsbury Coalfield, near Pontesbury, with freshwater limestone.

Freshwater Limestone, with Cypris, at *Linley*.

Permian rocks, bordering the E. of the Coalbrook Dale field.

Permian breccia at *Alberbury* and *Curdeston*.

New Red of *Bridgnorth*.

Lias between *Wem* and *Audlem*.

Drift (glacial) at *Strethill*, near Buildwas.

River terraces and gravel drifts at *Arley*.

Low-level gravels at *Crudgington*, and the valley of the *Tern*.

II.—CHESHIRE.

THE chance traveller by rail from Crewe to Birkenhead, during his progress through Cheshire will, generally speaking, carry away with him a low estimate of its scenic beauty and interest; but for all that, there is much in the county that is charmingly picturesque, although it lies somewhat out of the beaten track of tourists, and requires searching for.

Cheshire may be described as a great plain, set in a frame of high ground, which in many localities offers views of a high order, although the component parts are not on a large scale. But even the plain, though exceedingly level, contains all the pleasant and sunny features of English pastoral life; while nowhere is the view so circumscribed as not to be relieved by the distant hills, which, if not so rich in the peculiar treasures of the plain, possesses others of different kind and value. To the E. a wild elevated district separates Cheshire from Derby and Staffordshire, extending from the valley of the Goyt, and forming the rugged country of Macclesfield Forest and Shutlingslow, to the S. of which the line is continued by Cloud Hill, Congleton Edge, and Mow Cop. The southern portion of Cheshire is continuous with the fertile pastures of Shropshire, but the western setting of the frame is furnished by the Peckforton range, and the high grounds that mark the course of the Dee. The Delamere Forest, one of the prettiest alternations of hill and woodland to be found in England, is almost the only break in the great central plain, and even this soon merges into the hills and defiles that fringe the Mersey estuary from Alvanley to Frodsham and Runcorn, and gradually die away as the Lancashire border is approached near Bowdon. Cheshire possesses two outlying districts, those of Wirral and Longdendale, which, as seen on the map, look very much like the respective handles of the casket. Nevertheless, they are extremely unlike each other, Wirral being marked by a tolerably uniform level, broken only by the hillocks of Bidstone and

Storeton, while Longdendale is characterised by the lofty hills and moorlands of the Pennine range.

With the exception of the Dee, which, though it enters the sea after a short course through Cheshire, is properly a Welsh rather than a Cheshire river, the water basin is entirely formed by the millstone grit plateau that bounds the North Staffordshire and Derbyshire coalfields. From its recesses issue the Tame and the Goyt, which, with their united waters, form the commerce-laden bosom of the Mersey. From hence, also, rise the Bollin, the Wheelock, and the Dane, the two latter helping to swell the volume of the Weaver, which, rising in the Shropshire plain, has a somewhat stagnant, though very valuable career, through the salt-bearing districts.

The oldest rocks that enter into the geological composition of the county belong to the carboniferous formation, and are chiefly *millstone grit*, with their subordinate beds. The *limestone* is principally represented by the Yoredale rocks that form the ridges of Bosley Minn and its neighbourhood, and are again seen further north at Staleybridge and the Saddleworth valley, where they are 2000 feet thick. On the N.W. side of Mow Cop the shale and limestone crop out at Newbold Astbury, the effects of an anticlinal line that runs along the ridge. To the N. are the high grounds of Macclesfield Forest, extending as far as Longdendale and into Yorkshire. The conical hill of Shutlingslow, the bold elevation of Cloud Hill, and the rugged escarpment of Congleton Edge, are all formed of different beds of these grits, which, as they approach Yorkshire, are developed on a large scale, though the scenery is not so varied.

There are four different beds of grit, with shales between each. The whole series is seen at Mottram, 3000 feet thick, but in their course southward they thin out more or less, until they disappear altogether in Staffordshire. The second bed cannot be traced further south than Shutlingslow, but at Cloud Hill the first, third, and fourth are seen,—the first, known as the Rough Rock, and forming the base of the coalmeasures; while to the third the hill owes its massive character. Immediately on the other side of Congleton Edge is the most northerly limit of the North Staffordshire coalfield, known as the Biddulph trough, which is formed by two beds of grit passing underneath the coalmeasures, and cropping out on the Edge and Mow Cop.

The *Coalmeasures* that form the southern portion of the Cheshire, or more properly the Lancashire coal-field, repose on the Rough Rock, and are worked between Stockport and Macclesfield to within half-a-mile of the latter town. They are here superficially covered by the Boulder clay, and soon pass under the river, taking a N.W. dip and overlaid by the Lower New Red and drift. In the neighbourhood of Macclesfield the collieries are not of so much importance as they are nearer to the Lancashire border, where some of the pits, and notably that of Dukinfield, are the deepest in England. The carboniferous beds are much disturbed all through the district. The valley of the Goyt itself is formed by a synclinal line towards which the coal-beds dip E. and W. An anticlinal passes between Mellor and Marple and can be traced as far as Forest

Chapel, where it splits into two, the coal-beds rising towards it from the Goyt trough on the E. and the Cheshire plain on the W. One branch of this saddle passes to the E. of Shutlingslow, which is capped with millstone grit and shows the limestone cropping out on the N.E. The other runs down S. to Cloud Hill and Mow Cop, where it exposes the shales at Newbold Astbury as before mentioned. It finally disappears at Madeley where the Bunter sandstone wraps round the extremity of the Potteries coal-field.

With the exception of a small portion of that pear-shaped *Lias* patch between Wem and Audlem, and some *Permian* beds at Norbury, near Stockport, the whole of the remainder of Cheshire consists of the Upper Saliferous Trias, or *Keuper beds*, and the underlying Bunter sandstone—the intermediate *Muschelkalk* being entirely wanting in this county. The water-stones (Lower Keuper) are seen 2 m. S. of Macclesfield in close contact with the lower coalmeasures, and also in the course of the Bollin between Quarry Bank and Bowdon.

A considerable dislocation runs from Leek in Staffordshire past Bosley to Rosthern and Lymm, forming the N.E. boundary of the Cheshire salt-field. Mr. G. W. Ormerod considers it probable that Rosthern Mere is situated on this line, and is perhaps the result of it. To the S. of Cheshire the Upper Red Marls extend along the base of Congleton Edge and Mow Cop, where they are in contact with the carboniferous limestone, and thence continue southwards to Madeley and Audlem, though much covered by drift. The district between Malpas (at the S.W. corner of the Peckforton Hills) and Congleton, is a trough or broad valley of gypseous and saliferous beds of the Keuper—in other words the Great Cheshire Salt Field—extending thence to Northwich and embracing all the principal salt-works which lie more or less near the banks of the rivers Weaver and Wheelock. The most easterly place where salt has been found is at Lawton, on the Staffordshire border, where the gypseous beds abut on the coal. The following are some of the heights compared with the sea-level at which salt has been found (Ormerod, 'Geol. Soc. Journal') :—

| | | | |
|------------|----|-----------|---------------------------|
| Lawton | .. | Rock-salt | 290 feet above sea-level. |
| Northwich | .. | " | 55 " |
| Winsford | .. | " | 90 " |
| Marston | .. | " | 27 " |
| Wheelock | .. | Brine | 3 below " |
| " | .. | " | 93 above |
| Middlewich | .. | " | 120 " |
| Frodsham | .. | " | 260 " |

This is sufficient to show that the district is traversed by great dislocations. The rock-salt occurs for the most part in two beds. At Winsford the upper bed is 120 ft. thick, and at Northwich about 90, the salt being impure in each case. Below it is a bed of indurated clay called "Stone" (33 to 36 ft.), succeeded by the second bed, the lower portion of which is the great repository from which the rock-salt supplies are drawn. To the N. of Northwich, salt is not found further than Budworth and Pickmere, both of which pools are probably due to the subsidences of the surface from the melting of the salt-beds underneath.

To the E. of Cheshire, the same fault which cuts off the salt-field has taken great effect at Alderley Edge, on one side of which are seen the Lower Keuper beds with copper-bearing strata, and on the other the Bunter sandstone. The latter is seen also at Timperley—along the valley of the Bollin—and again underlying the terrace ridge from Hoo Green by Leigh to Lymm, and on to Hill Cliff near Warrington. From thence it fringes the Red Marl all round by Runcorn, Frodsham, nearly to Tarporley, forming the ranges of the Peckforton Hills, Beeston Rock, and the rising ground on the banks of the Dee.

In Wirral the Upper Red and variegated sandstones of the Bunter are frequently seen, overlaid unconformably by the Keuper, though they have evidently suffered much denudation prior to the deposition of the latter. These beds are of peculiar interest to the fossil collector from the occurrence of Cheirotherium footsteps all through the district. Mr. Ormerod estimates the thickness of the Trias in Cheshire as follows:—

| | |
|--------------------------------------|--------------|
| Gypseous and Saliferous beds | Feet. 700 |
| Waterstones | 400 |
| Bunter Sandstone | 600 |
| | 1700 |

Few counties afford better opportunities for studying the *drift* than Cheshire—at least in its eastern portion. All over the S. the Triassic strata are more or less covered by it, but the level character of the country does not offer many sections. However the ravine-like nature of the district round Macclesfield and Stockport shows the boulder clay and valley gravels containing shells, to great perfection.

LOCALITIES INTERESTING TO THE GEOLOGIST.

Limestone and shales of *Newbold Astbury*.

Millstone grit at *Mow Cop* and *Cloud Hill*.

Coalmeasure shales, with goniatites at *Dukinfield*, on the banks of the Tame.

Keuper beds (copper-bearing) at *Alderley Edge* and *Mottram St. Andrew's*.

Triassic strata at *Lymm*, *Daresbury*, *Weston* near Runcorn, *Tarporley*, and *Storeton Hill*, all containing foot-tracks of Cheirotherium Kaupii.

Salt-mines at *Northwich*, *Marston*, and *Winsford*.

Drift (boulder clay and gravels) at *Macclesfield*, where great numbers of shells were found at the cemetery.

Drift beds at *Bredbury*, near Stockport (marine shells).

"Till" at *Hyde*.

Pleistocene deposits near *Birkenhead*.

Forest beds at *Leasowes*.

Glaciation marks at *Bidstone Hill*.

III.—LANCASHIRE.

The county palatine of Lancaster possesses in some degree a similarity in its physical features to that of Salop, inasmuch as it contains within its boundaries scenery of such opposite character. The fertile plain, the desolate fenland, the moors and the mountains, have each their place in Lancashire, and though there is much in it that is somewhat dreary superficially, the riches that are obtained from under the surface make ample amends.

The whole of South Lancashire, comprising the district between the Mersey and the Liverpool and Manchester Railway, is exceedingly flat and unprepossessing, and it is not until we get north of that line that the rising grounds of the coal-fields begin to show themselves and impart some variety. The western portion of the coal basin, although tolerably diversified, does not possess any attractive features—but as soon as the traveller crosses the line marked by the Wigan and Preston Railway, a great difference is seen. Here we have the conspicuous ridge of Rivington Pike (1545 ft.), which appears higher than it really is from the extent of the plain out of which it rises. The lofty moorlands and broken dells, called locally "cloughs" or "goyts," extend southward as far as Bolton, while northward they run to Blackburn, Haslingden, and Burnley, where, divided by the valleys of the Calder and the Ribble, a fresh set of hills takes their place.

It is a district given up to coal-pits, grit and sandstone quarries, and dye-works, and is not one much visited by tourists; but nevertheless it contains some very picturesque scenery, the hills which overlook the Irwell valley by Ramsbottom rising to a considerable height at Holcombe Moor (1162 ft.), the valleys themselves being richly wooded.

Towards the source of the Irwell they run up into the heart of the moorlands of Rossendale Forest, now only a forest in name. The general elevation of Rossendale is in itself considerable, and the outline of the hills so devoid of sharpness, that the highest parts of the district, such as Derplay (1429 ft.), Coupe-Law (1438 ft.) and Haslingden Moors lose their effect amongst the moorlands by which they are surrounded, and which extend eastward to Rochdale. Here, in the hills that overlook the valleys of the Roch and the Spodden, much beautiful scenery on a small scale is to be found. The eastern border of the county is marked by a much finer series of hills, which run far into Yorkshire, and form part of the great backbone of the Pennine chain. Blackstone Edge and the valley of the Calder, up to Todmorden, offer rugged and broken landscape of great interest, with many special features which will well repay their exploration by the antiquary and the geologist. At Todmorden a great transverse valley is reached, the right arm of which at once conveys the traveller into Yorkshire, while the left introduces him to the mountain region to the north of Burnley. Here the culminating point is reached in Pendle Hill, an immense mass of mountain, 1803 ft. in height, which, with its outliers of Padiham Heights, fills up the area between Burnley, Colne, Clitheroe and Whalley.

At Clitheroe the broad valley of the Ribble intervenes, with its subsidiary the Hodder, shutting off the hill districts of East and Mid Lancashire from those of the north; although, looking up the Vale of Hodder, the tourist beholds the distant terrace-like mountains in the neighbourhood of Whitewell, which connect this portion of the county with Lancaster by means of the Fells of Wyersdale and Bleasdale, and the Forest of Bowland.

We have thus traced the gradual development of high land, from the flats and levels of South and West Lancashire, through the coalmeasure plateaus of the middle of the county, to the rugged and inhospitable fells of the north; and we have now to continue our examination on the other side of the Ribble, which, as it were, cuts the county in two, almost at its narrowest part. Taking the line marked out by the Preston and Lancaster Railway, we have on l. just such another series of mosses and levels as we have between Liverpool, Ormskirk and Preston, and which appear to be the concomitants of the estuaries of the large rivers, such as the Mersey, Ribble, Wyre, and Lune.

But as the hill country is approached (to the rt. of the railway), the valleys become deeper, the rivers more rapid, and the scenery more picturesque. The Fells themselves are not remarkable for great height or great beauty, but for all that, they are worth ascending, on account of the very extensive views seaward over the Irish Channel and the Isle of Man.

In the Vale of Lune, which acts as the second great break dividing the Lancaster Fells from the Lake Mountains, there is much beautiful scenery, especially as the tourist nears its head in the neighbourhood of Kirkby Lonsdale, or the head of its tributary, the Wenning, in the vicinity of Ingleton, where the mountain limestone not only composes the magnificent ranges of Ingleborough and Penyghent, but is the framework of those extraordinary caverns which burrow into the recesses of the hills. At Carnforth we are introduced into that glorious region of Lake Mountains, which are only Lancastrian by arbitrary geographical division, but physically are continuous with Westmorland and Cumberland.

In the portion which belongs to the County Palatine are Windermere, Esthwaite Water, and Coniston Water, all of which lakes have a parallel course from N. to S., thus determining the course of the rivers that issue from them into the Bay of Morecambe, and also those limestone and Silurian mountains, which, commencing with Weatherlam and Conistor Old Man, gradually decline in height until they terminate seawards in the Fells of Furness.

The geology of Lancashire, although full of general interest, is not so varied as its scenery, by far the largest portion of the county being comprised in the carboniferous formation, which is of great extent and importance. The most recent strata are those of the Triassic, or New Red Sandstone, which fringes the sea-coast districts on the W., and the river district on the S. Speaking rather generally, the limits of it would be defined by the course of the Lancaster, Preston, Ormskirk, and Liverpool Railway, and from the latter place to Manchester by the London and North-Western Railway and the Mersey.

It consists principally of the Keuper beds, which are very uniform in

their lithological aspect throughout the district, being mostly a conglomerate containing quartz, pebbles, and nodules of clay. The Bunter Sandstone appears but little on the rising ground north of the Mersey, where it has suffered too much from denudation; but it is seen along the river valley, and the low-lying lands in the neighbourhood of Widness. Sections and well-borings at Liverpool show the Triassic beds to be of the following thickness:—Keuper Red Marls, 100 ft.; Upper Shales or Waterstones, 75 ft.; Red and Yellow Sandstones, 150 ft.; Lower Shales, 50 ft.; Yellow and White Sandstones, with Conglomerate base, 175 ft.; Bunter Upper Sandstone, 400 feet; Pebble-bed, 350 ft.; Lower Sandstones, 400 ft.; total thickness, 1700 ft. At Manchester the New Red is only 1200 ft., showing that it diminishes rapidly as it goes S.E., as it is only 600 ft. in Derby and Staffordshire, and 250 ft. in Leicester and Warwick. It is an important aid to the commercial resources of Manchester, as it yields to the bleachworks, factories, and breweries, upwards of six million gallons of water every twenty-four hours. Sections at Ormskirk show the base of the Keuper conglomerate, with the Bunter underneath, where it yields a very valuable sand for foundry purposes. Warrington is, perhaps, the best place in Lancashire for studying the New Red, for in the neighbourhood the Bunter Sandstones are found not only on the north side of the river, but also at Hillcliff and Lymm on the Cheshire side. Moreover, it is not so obscured by drift or "till," as it is near Manchester, or along the west coast, where it is scarcely visible on that account.

The *Permian* beds assume an importance in Lancashire which few other counties possess, and which, of course, arises from their connection with the large carboniferous area which they more or less fringe. The best localities for studying them are the neighbourhoods of Warrington, Leigh, and Manchester. They are well seen forming a belt of half a mile in width from Grange, N. of St. Helen's, and thence in the direction of Parr and Sutton to Rainhill, when they are thrown out by a fault. Near Manchester Mr. Binney gives the following general sections of the Permian beds:—1. Laminated and fine-grained red sandstone (not seen). 2. Red and variegated marls, with beds of limestone and gypsum, containing schizodus, &c., 300 feet. 3. Conglomerates, 50 ft. 4. Lower Red sandstone, 500 ft. 5. Red shaley clays (not seen). 6. Astley pebble beds, containing coal-plants, and termed by him Lower Permian, 60 ft.

The *Carboniferous formation* including the coalmeasures, millstone grit, shales, and limestone, occupy the remainder of the county, and are of vast importance in an economic point of view, as also of extreme interest to the geologist. Speaking generally this formation is of great thickness in Lancashire; the

| | |
|------------------------------|--------|
| | Feet. |
| Coalmeasures being | 8460 |
| Millstone grit | 5500 |
| Yoredale series | 5025 |
| | 18,985 |

The coalmeasures, the whole and uninterrupted series of which is found here, is divided into the Lower, Middle, and Upper Series; the Lower or

Ganister, resting directly on the Millstone Grit, and terminating at the floor of the Arley Mine. The Middle series extends upwards to the floor of the Pendleton Four-foot coal, while the Upper embraces the Ardwick beds. Although it is a common fashion to speak of the different coal-fields of Wigan, St. Helen's, Bolton, &c., they are all part and parcel of the great Lancashire basin, the only two fields that are really separated by geological boundaries being those of Manchester and Burnley.

The Lancashire field is marked out on the W. by a great fault, which throws down the New Red, and extends from Lathom Park, near Ormskirk, to Huyton. On the N., on the high grounds that run with considerable uniformity from Chorley to Ashton-under-Lyne, the coal country declines gradually from the foot of these hills to the Mersey, dipping under the New Red and Permian Beds, which line its banks. The bulk of the measures are those of the Middle Coal Series, the lowest horizon of which is the Arley Mine, a most valuable and persistent coal, that forms an excellent geological starting point for correlative purposes; for, as usual, the measures in the different places, are nearly all called by their own particular names, adding greatly to the confusion, and difficulty of establishing identity. The difficulty is increased by the rapid thickening of the sandstones and shales towards the N.W.

Mr. Binney, however, has pointed out the continuity of several strata throughout the basin, as, for instance, the "Little Delf" of St. Helen's with the Arley Mine at Wigan, the "Riley" Mine of Bolton and the "Dogshaw" Mine of Bury. The upper coalmeasures of the Lancashire basin are either without coal, or with such thin beds as not to be worth working. At St. Helen's these have a thickness of 650 yards, and near Bolton of 420. The St. Helen's section shows 14 measures of coal varying from 1 ft. 6 in. to 9 ft. (the St. Helen's Main Coal).

At Wigan there are 15 beds, varying from 3 ft. to 7 ft., and the same number at Bolton. The most valuable of the series are the Arley Mine and the Cannel. The former is characterized by a very constant bed of ironstone, charged with *Anthracosia robusta*. The latter is rich in fish remains, but unfortunately it thins out in every direction from Wigan, which appears to be the centre. But the whole of the measures have yielded a great number of fossils, and particularly ferns.

The *Lower coal-measures* of the Lancashire basin, or Ganister series, are found principally occupying the high moorland to the N. of Wigan, Horwich, Bolton, Bury, Oldham, and Staley Bridge. The coal-seams themselves are thin, and not nearly so important as those of the Middle measures; but they are of great interest to the geologist, and are the cause of considerable scenic beauty, characterised by deep winding valleys, or "cloughs," excavated out of the shales and sandstones. The Ganister series is also found occupying an area interposed between the Middle measures from a point a little N. of St. Helen's up to the valley of the Tawd. Their appearance here is caused by a great fault, called the Upholland Fault, which brings up the Ganister beds on the E., and throws out all the coals except the Mountain mines, which are so called because they are generally worked by levels or galleries running into the hill-

sides. This area is marked superficially by the high grounds of Billinge, Ashurst, and Upholland. A section at Billinge shows, in a thickness of about 1800 ft., 6 beds of coal, varying from a few inches to 2 ft. 8 in. The roofs of these coals abound in goniatites, &c., and the under-clays in *stigmaria*.

The *Manchester coalfield* is really a distinct field, separated from the main Lancashire basin by New Red and by Permian rocks at Collyhurst. It is but small, being only $4\frac{1}{2}$ m. long by $1\frac{1}{2}$ broad. Economically, it is not of so much importance, as the thick coals of the Middle measures below the Worsley Four-feet have not yet been reached; but to the geologist it is exceedingly interesting, as affording one of the finest Upper coal-measure sections in England. These can be seen in the valley of the Medlock at Ardwick, and consist of red clays, sandstones, and 6 beds of limestone, containing *spirorbis* and fish. The coal-seams are few and thin, but there is a bed of blackband, with fish and marine shells.

To the N.E. of the Lancashire basin, and separated by the Ganister rocks and the millstone-grit plateaux of Rossendale and Habergham, is the small but productive coal-field of Burnley, nearly oval in shape, lying in a trough that passes under the town of Burnley, and bounded on all sides by millstone-grit and Yoredale rocks. The E. boundary is formed by a great fault, which has plunged the productive coalmeasures on the W. towards the centre of the basin, where they are nearly horizontal. The measures are those of the Middle and *Lower* series, the former commencing with the Doghole coal and ending with the *Fulledge* coal, the equivalent of the Arley mine, which is the 13th coal-seam in succession from the top. To the *Fulledge* coal succeed the Ganister coals and millstone-grit series. To the geologist, the Burnley basin is specially instructive, because it offers an uninterrupted section, commencing with the outcrop of the *Fulledge* (or Arley) coal, through the Lower coalmeasures, Rough rock, Millstone-grit, and Yoredale series of Pendle Hill, — a section of not much less than 10,000 feet. The whole of the series abound in fish remains and shells.

The country between Rochdale, Todmorden, and Burnley, embracing the rugged moorlands of Cliviger, is composed of hills of the Lower coalmeasures and millstone-grit; the Yoredale series, or limestone shales, occupying the district between Burnley, Colne, and Clitheroe. To the N.W., again, of these is a fine development of *carboniferous limestone*, forming lofty ranges of hills between Clitheroe, Whitewell, and Lancaster. This limestone is seen in its most picturesque forms along the valleys of the Lune and Wenning, and skirting the shores of Morecambe Bay. It is to these rocks that are owing the magnificent cave series of Kirkby Lonsdale and the valuable mineral riches of the Furness district, where the junction of the limestone with the *Silurian* slates is marked by workings for hæmatite ore. The Silurians of Furness are principally of Wenlock and Caradoc age, embracing all the country up to Coniston, under the name of Coniston Flags. At Coniston itself are seen not only Coniston limestones, but the mudstones underneath these, containing fossils of Llandeilo age.

The *Drift* formation in Lancashire is of great interest to the geologist, and has been most minutely described, as regarding the S. of the county, by Mr. Binney and Mr. Morton. The former geologist has divided the drift in the neighbourhood of Manchester into—1. Upper sand and gravel; 2. Middle boulder clay, or “till;” 3. Lower sand and gravel; and, with local differences, this division may stand for the greater part of the county. The Upper sand, to the N. of Manchester is at least 150 ft. thick. The boulder clay is seen in great force along the lowlands on the banks of the Irwell and Mersey; and in the neighbourhood of Bolton the upper surface “assumes the form of a plain, which stretches to the base of the hills, and through which the rivers wander in deeply-cut channels.”

On the N. bank of the Mersey, from Hale to Garston, the boulder clay forms a conspicuous cliff, full of erratic blocks of old rocks. The Furness district, too, is towards the S. thickly overlaid with drift, and offers most instructive appearances of moraines, hummocks, roches moutonnées, and plateaux.

LOCALITIES OF INTEREST FOR THE GEOLOGIST.

Coniston limestones and mudstones at Coniston Old Man, with Llandeilo fossils.

Coniston flags (fossiliferous) at Lowick and the valley of the Crake.

Moulded limestones near Ulverston (Tarn Close).

Hæmatite ore-mines at Dalton and Lindale.

Coniston flags and grits at Kirkby Ireleth.

Yoredale shales at Pendle Hill.

Carboniferous limestone (very rich in fossils) of the Bowland Forest.

Ditto at Clitheroe and Chatburn.

Section of *Lower coalmeasures*, *Rough rock*, and millstone-grit, between Burnley, Padiham, and Pendle Hill.

Middle and Lower coalmeasures at Burnley, rich in shells, fish remains, and ferns.

Lower coalmeasures at Billinge.

Ditto at Upholland, and *millstone-grit* at Grimshaw Delf.

Middle coalmeasures at Wigan (rich in fossils).

Ditto at Bolton and Bury, very rich in ferns.

Lower measures at Rivington and the bed of the Yarrow.

Ditto at Oldham (rich in shells and fish).

Upper measures at Ardwick; *fresh-water limestones*, with spirorbis (shells and fish).

Permian quarries (fossiliferous) at Bedford, near Leigh.

Permian beds at Collyhurst.

Ditto at Astley.

New Red sandstone at Warrington (Highcliff, in Cheshire), and between Rainhill and St. Helen's.

Drift in valleys of the Irwell and Irk.

Ditto at Blackpool (shell-bed at Gynn).

Boulder-clay cliff at Hale.

Glacial drift near Ulverston.

Ancient Sea-beach and shell-bed at Aldingham, Furness.

There are museums of great interest at Manchester, Liverpool, Preston, and Warrington.

II.—INDUSTRIAL RESOURCES.

I.—SHROPSHIRE.

Although Shropshire cannot be included amongst the manufacturing counties, it contains within its boundaries a very fair share of the economic riches of the earth, about half of its population being engaged in specific trades and pursuits, while the other half is supported by agriculture.

The metalliferous mines are nearly all found in the mountainous portion of the county, between Bishop's Castle and Minsterley. The district which yields them is entirely occupied by Lower Silurian rocks (p. vii) of Lingula and Llandeilo age, and has long been known for its mineral wealth. "In 1190, Richard I. granted a charter conveying the 'Forest of Teneffrestanes' to the Baron of Caus; and there are so many references to the lead found in the neighbourhood, as to prove that the veins were extensively worked in the 13th and 14th centuries. In Eyton's 'Antiquities of Shropshire,' cartloads of lead are spoken of; but whether lead-ore or pure lead is not stated, though it is certain that smelting operations were performed near the mines."—*Morton*. Mining implements of Roman age, together with a pig of lead, were found near Snead, at the bottom of a trench called the Roman Vein, which is the most valuable vein in the district.

In 1867 the number of *Lead* mines in Shropshire were 15, producing 4506 tons of lead-ore and 3507 of lead. Of these the principal and most prolific was the Snailbeach Mine, near Minsterley, which yielded more than half the total amount.

Copper is not worked to any extent, there being only 2 copper-mines in Shropshire: viz., at Westcott and Clive, on the N. side of Grinshill. The returns for 1867 only show a production of 97 tons of ore, so that copper-mining in Shropshire does not appear a very profitable investment. It is worked in horizontal beds in the Triassic strata as at Alderley, Cheshire (Rte. 13), and not in lodes as at Cornwall. In addition to the lead, the Stiperstone mines yield a small quantity of zinc-ore and barytes, the other productions being only valuable to the mineralogist. They consist of quartz, chalcedony, calcite, witherite, malachite, redruthite, galena, minium, &c.

Iron ore, in the shape of argillaceous carbonate and blackband, is largely worked in the neighbourhood of Coalbrook Dale, Madeley, Lilleshall, and the coal-basin generally. In 1867, 250,000 tons were raised of the value

of 62,500*l.* It is all used in the *ironworks*, and none is sent out of the county. Shropshire supplies a very fair proportion of the *pig-iron* that is sent into the market. Out of 29 furnaces there were in blast, in 1868, 22, which produced annually 123,604 tons. The works principally belong to the Companies of Coalbrook Dale, Madeley, and Old Park. Attached to them are 201 puddling-furnaces and 36 rolling-mills.

The process of iron manufacture in Shropshire is so similar to that of other places, that it is needless to describe it in detail. It will be sufficient to notice that the Coalbrook Dale Works have always had a specialty for fine castings of extreme delicacy, a good example of which was seen in the iron gates at the Exhibition of 1851.

As regards the capabilities of the Shropshire iron and coal field, the north-eastern portion of it will be found to be now most productive, owing to the extension of mining-operations underneath the Permian and New Red sandstone. The district of Coalbrook Dale is beginning to show signs of exhaustion. There are 62 collieries at present working in Shropshire, being an increase of 7 in the ten years 1857-67. From these collieries about 1,600,000 tons of coal are annually raised.

The Forest of Wyre contains near the western side, as far as it has been explored, 3 beds of coal—1 ft. 10 in., 2 ft., and 4 ft. in thickness respectively. These are all in the upper measures. Both this coalfield and those of the Cleve Hills, Leebotwood, and Shrewsbury fields are scarcely worth talking about as a commercial industry. The Coalbrook Dale field is 28 square miles in area, and possesses 27 ft. of coal in 1200 ft. of coal measures. Mr. Hull (writing in 1859) computed that the original quantity of coal in it was 43,000,000 tons, and that the total quantity worked out and lost was about 28,000,000; leaving for future use only 15,000,000, which would be exhausted in about 20 years from that time. Ten of them have gone by; but the opening of one or two collieries by Lord Granville, under the New Red, will contribute very much to lengthening their duration of existence.

The minor manufacturing industries of Shropshire are few, and include pottery and tobacco-pipes, a very old-established trade at Broseley; an important encaustic tile manufactory, carried on by Messrs. Maw, at Benthall; as also one of draining-pipes at Newport; flannels at Oswestry and Shrewsbury; carpets at Bridgnorth. There is much valuable building stone in the county. That of Grinshill, between Shrewsbury and Wem, on the New Red sandstone, has been largely used for churches, public buildings, and gentlemen's seats. Limestone of good quality is quarried at Orton, and valuable road-metal is obtained from the "Dhu Stone" of the Cleve Hills.

The county of Salop, however important may be its several branches of manufacture, ranks rather amongst the agricultural counties of England, and in this respect more as a grazing than a corn-growing district. For this, the large extent of New and Old Red sandstone that prevails, renders it fitting, the land of the W., approaching the Welsh borders, being hilly and poor. Amongst the local peculiarities of the cattle, it may be mentioned that the Bishop's Castle neighbourhood is celebrated for a good breed

of cattle of dark-red colour, whilst the district known as the Forest of Clun yields good mountain ponies, and a small breed of sheep, the mutton of which is highly prized by bonvivants.

According to the Agricultural Statistics of the Board of Trade, Shropshire consists of 826,055 acres, supporting a population of about 250,000. Of this acreage 660,240 are under crops of all kinds, 177,106 under corn, 63,772 under green crops, and 340,909 under grass. About 121,000 cattle, 519,560 sheep, and 61,000 pigs are reared.

The corn-crops consist of wheat, barley, oats, beans, and peas; and the principal green-crop is that of swedes.

II.—CHESHIRE

may fairly be divided into half manufacturing and half agricultural interest, and is interesting as possessing almost a monopoly of two of England's most valuable industries—salt and silk. As a metalliferous county, it has not much to boast; its only product in this branch being copper, which is worked somewhat extensively in the Keuper formation of the New Red sandstone at Alderley Edge, where it is found not in lodes, as in Cornwall, but in horizontal cuperiferous beds. From the 'Mining Statistics' we learn that these Alderley mines yielded, in 1867, 15,152 tons of copper-ore of the value of 16,500*l.* The ultimate quantity of copper obtained was 301 tons, of the value of 23,570*l.* In addition to the copper, occur ores of cobalt, manganese, carbonate of lead, galena, barytes, and oxide of iron. The carbonate of lead is in the shape of crystals, disseminated through the rock, and is separated from the matrix by maceration and washing when it is ready for smelting. The cobalt and manganese are found and treated in the same way, and the water used in the working of them is allowed to settle, when the red or yellow ochre, of which it is full, subsides and is then smelted for the iron that it contains. "The process by which the copper is separated from the sand, and thrown down in a metallic state, is very beautiful, and probably the only one by which the result could be accomplished successfully in a commercial point of view, as its average percentage of ore is not more than 2·5. The rock is macerated in a solution of muriatic acid, then filtered; and the 'copper liquor,' of a rich deep green, is pumped into reservoirs of wood. Into these old scrap iron is thrown, and the acid, leaving the copper, seizes the iron, which it dissolves, while the copper is precipitated in a metallic state. On the completion of the process the residuum, consisting of 80 parts of copper and 20 of iron, is collected and sent in sacks to St. Helen's and Swansea to be smelted."—*Hull.*

In a small degree, and very unprofitably, copper has been worked in the Peckforton hills.

As a coal-producing district, Cheshire does not rank high, although a

very considerable portion of the county is occupied by the coalmeasures, extending from Wildboar Clough, by Macclesfield and Stockport, into Lancashire. There are no iron works at all within this area, and the coals raised from the 39 collieries, which in 1867 amounted to 925,000 tons, are principally used in the factories and local consumption. Generally speaking the collieries are but of small size ; but at Dukinfield there is one of the extraordinary depth of 2150 ft. To scientific men this pit was specially interesting, for in it was taken a series of observations as to temperature at increasing depths of mines. It was found that 51° was the invariable temperature throughout the year at a depth of 17 ft., and that for every 83·2 ft. there was an increase of 1° .

Salt.—The geological features of the salt district of the Triassic or New Red sandstone are detailed in page xiii. The salt trade is altogether confined to a few localities, there being 32 salt proprietors in Northwich and neighbourhood ; 30 in Over and Winsford ; 3 in Sandbach. In these are included salt manufacturers as well as rock-salt owners. For description of mines at Northwich, the tourist must refer to Rte. 20.

The largest trade by far is carried on in the white salt, the ordinary household salt of consumption, which is evaporated from the brine. The brine is first pumped into a reservoir, and then taken by pipes into salt-pans, which vary in size from 40 to 100 ft. in length, and are separated from each other by pathways to allow the workmen to stir up and rake off the salt.

Underneath these are furnaces, which are capable of regulation as to the heat, and thus producing the various qualities of salt required. Fishing salt, which crystallizes in large cubical crystals, is obtained by a heat of 100° , so as to cause great slowness of evaporation ; for common coarse salt a heat of 130° is obtained, and for lump salt a heat of 225° is required, so as to produce boiling agitation, and cause the crystals of muriate of soda to fall to the bottom. As soon as these processes are finished the heat is diminished, and the salt raked out and put into tubs to be drained, and then dried in stove-houses. "It is estimated that every pint of brine contains 6 ounces of salt, and to make 100 tons of salt about 60 tons of coal are required." The quantity of rock salt sent down the Weaver within the last 10 years has diminished, it being in 1859 69,528 tons, and in 1868 only 49,759. On the other hand the white salt yield has increased from 675,412 tons to 868,679. The exports to the United States in 1869 were 211,873 tons, and the next largest foreign consumers are British North America and Russia. The make of salt in the Cheshire districts is about eight times as large as that from Worcestershire.

With *building stone* Cheshire is very fairly supplied, the chief, indeed the only quarries being in the New Red Sandstone, the millstone grit and coalmeasure sandstones. Of the former the best known are the quarries at Bidstone, Flaybrick, Weston, Frodsham, and Storeton. Mow Cop and Congleton Edge yield a first-class stone from the millstone grit ; Kerridge and Five-ashes from the coalmeasures.

In *agriculture* Cheshire has long held a high position for the richness of its pastures and its splendid dairy farms, the average size of which is from 50 to 150 acres. "The effect of the dairy husbandry may be observed all

through the county. Land is ploughed in order to bear winter fodder for cattle, and to improve pastures overrun with cows. The sheep husbandry, which is so profitable to the farmers in other counties, is scarcely known in Cheshire. Sheep do not go well with cows, as they pick out the finest herbage before it is long enough for the cows to graze. Some few are kept to consume the grasses which the cows refuse; they are seldom kept over the year, and are sold as soon as any profit is realized. Grass-land is considered so much more valuable than arable, that most leases contain a clause that not more than one fourth of the farm shall be ploughed. A soil which is rather stiff is considered the best for grass, especially if there be a substratum of marl, which is the case in many parts of the county. A very rich loam is not considered so good for pastures where cheese is made as one less fertile, as it is apt to make the cheese heave."

The county, which has a population of 539,530, contains 707,000 acres, of which 94,000 only is under corn, and 36,500 under green crops, the grass-land amounting to 315,000. Thus the percentage of corn crops only amounts to 19.0 of the whole. The number of cattle maintained is 134,360, being 27 per cent. to every 100 acres—198,500 sheep and 54,000 pigs. The portion of the county which lies in proximity to the great cities and towns is valuable for market gardens, and immense quantities of vegetables are grown; the neighbourhood of Frodsham being famous for its potatoes, and Altrincham for its carrots and onions. The former, indeed, is so celebrated, that it is known as the Altrincham or greentop carrot.

Of manufactures, by far the most important is that of *silk*, which is almost a Cheshire specialty. In the towns at the north-east portion of the county, such as Stockport, Hyde, Dukinfield, Mottram, &c., cotton-spinning is the staple employment; but in Macclesfield, Congleton, and the villages surrounding, such as Sutton, Langley, Bollington, Rainow, &c., nearly all the population is devoted to silk, although the trade is not such a very old one, the first silk mill being established in Macclesfield only in 1756, and in Congleton still later. Silk in the state of cocoons is principally supplied to this country from Japan and China, though of late years the planting of mulberry-trees and the rearing of the silkworm has been largely carried on on the continent, and is very soon likely to become an important branch of industry in England through the agency of the Silk Supply Association. Curiously enough, when it arrives in the raw state in England, it has to be sent to France or Italy to be reeled, there being no body of factory operatives who have hitherto been taught how to reel silk, although instruction in this necessary branch is likewise in contemplation. The raw silk, when properly reeled, consists of a delicate continuous thread formed by an aggregate of the fine silkworm filaments, and it becomes needful, before it can be made sufficiently hard for the purposes of the weaver, to give it into the hands of the silk *thrower*, or throwster. Many silk throwers are also silk manufacturers, but for a considerable period, and particularly when Spitalfields was the chief locale of the trade, it was a separate branch. The operation, which requires some complex machinery, consists in spinning and twisting the silk into a coherent and continuous thread. "In plain silk-weaving the process is much the

[*Shropshire, &c.*]

same as that for weaving woollen or linen, but the weaver is assisted by a machine for the even distribution of the warp, which frequently consists of 8000 separate threads in a width of 20 inches. Satin derives its lustre from the great proportion of the warp being left visible, and the piece being afterwards passed over heated cylinders. The pile, which constitutes the peculiarity of velvet, is produced by the insertion of short pieces of silk thread, which cover the surface so entirely as to conceal the interlacings of the warp and the weft."

The following is a brief epitome of the cotton and silk trades as found in Cheshire, which naturally give employment to a very large population:—

| | | |
|-----------------------|-----|--|
| Calico printers .. | 13 | Stockport and neighbourhood. |
| Candlewick spinners | 40 | Nearly all at Stockport. |
| Carpet manufacturers | 1 | Wildboar Clough. |
| Cotton doublers .. | 7 | Stockport. |
| Cotton spinners .. | 120 | Stockport, Hyde, Dukinfield, Staley Bridge, &c. |
| Cotton manufacturers | 66 | Stockport. |
| Cotton waste spinner | 1 | Disley. |
| Cotton weaver .. | 1 | Staley Bridge. |
| Flock willower .. | 1 | Stockport. |
| Flax spinner | 1 | Stockport. |
| Fringe maker | 1 | Macclesfield. |
| Fustian cutters .. | 17 | All at Lymm. |
| Silk finisher | 1 | Macclesfield. |
| Silk manufacturers .. | 44 | Macclesfield and Congleton. |
| Silk weavers | 6 | Macclesfield. |
| Silk printer | 1 | Macclesfield. |
| Silk spinners | 2 | Congleton. |
| Silk throwers | 64 | Congleton and Macclesfield. |

These numbers do not imply that there are so many distinct mills and factories, as many silk manufacturers carry on the business of silk throwing, just as cotton manufacturers do that of spinning. The peculiarities of the cotton trade will be described under Lancashire, which is its special home.

III.—LANCASHIRE

is, from various causes, one of the richest and most important counties in England, whether we regard its natural productions or those manufactures which have taken such deep root in it—on which such an enormous population depend for their daily bread and so many millions of capital are embarked. Were Lancashire and its manufactures suddenly to collapse, the trade of a third of the world would disappear with it, and

by so doing would inflict terrible blows not only on this country, but on America, India, and our colonies generally. One of the principal reasons of the prosperity of Lancashire has been its vast coalfields, upon which her busy factory towns stand, and without which they could not exist. The hilly contour of the county, with its numerous streams and rivers, contributed also to the establishment upon their banks of the various mills which required the motive power of water, although in this respect the mighty aid of steam has to a great degree neutralised these advantages; while in the rapid growth of Liverpool—after London the busiest port in the world—may be seen another reason why the tide of commerce has poured in with such a steady flow into the county palatine.

In metalliferous mines Lancashire is not wealthy, save in one respect, and it is not difficult to understand why, when we consider the geological formation of the county. *Lead* is worked only at one spot, viz. Whitewell, near Clitheroe, in the carboniferous limestone, and that only to a small extent, the yield in 1868 being only 690 tons of ore, producing 489 tons of lead. *Copper* is more abundant, and is found at the most northern extremity of the county amidst the rugged cliffs of Coniston Old Man. 1688 tons of copper ore were extracted in 1868, from which the amount of fine copper was 147 tons, of the value of nearly 11,000*l.*

A little to the S. of Coniston, but in the same isolated section of the county, is the district of Furness, the richest locality for *iron ore* in the kingdom. Argillaceous iron ores are worked in several localities where there are coal-seams; but Furness is especially celebrated for its vast supplies of hematite iron ore, which occurs just at the junction of the carboniferous limestone with the Silurian slates. Not only has the discovery of this ore given employment to a large mining population, but it has created within the last 20 years the populous and busy iron town of Barrow, from whence lines of railway run inland to supply the ironworks of other counties, whilst a continuous fleet of ships carries the ore to South Wales.

There are 22 mines in Furness, which in 1867 yielded 667,356 tons of hematite, valued at 338,678*l.* The peculiarity of the Furness mines is that the iron ores do not occur in beds or regular strata, like the carbonaceous ores and blackbands, but are found in great irregular masses, like lodes. "Among the more remarkable mines are those of Lindal Moor, worked to a depth of about 70 yards, but to a width almost as great. Huge excavations are thus formed in a mass of solid ore as large, according to the saying of the district which recalls the comfortable status of the Furness churchmen, as a tithe-barn. The result has been the collapse of the ground into a deep gully for a quarter of a mile in length. On the north of the town of Dalton, at Rickett Hills, Elliscales, and Mousell, the hematite has been worked in several isolated repositories, described as of a dish shape, in which the excavation has been stopped on all sides by limestone; several of these, whose boundaries have been ascertained, run from 50 to 60 yards in width, and 15 to 20 yards deep, having no cover over them but the alluvium of drift."—*Geol. Surv. Memoirs*. The average percentage of iron in the ore is from 60 to 65, which causes it to be in great request for mixing with the inferior ores of other coalfields.

With the exception, however, of Barrow (Rte. 44) and Wigan (Rte. 26), Lancashire is not a great iron-making county, and nearly all the furnaces that it does contain are devoted to the smelting of the hæmatite. The Barrow Steel Company have ten furnaces in blast, and the Carnforth Company have two. The Kirkless Hall Company at Wigan have four, which are supplied partly by hæmatite and partly by argillaceous ore.

At Newland and Blackbarrow are a couple of furnaces which are fed by charcoal, the sole relics in England of the early days of smelting, when timber was plentiful and pit-coal scarcely known. The amount of pig-iron turned out in 1867 was 318,800 tons.

The Lancashire *Coalfield*, together with those of Manchester and Burnley, contain 353 collieries, which give a total annual yield of 13 million tons. A very large portion of this immense output is used in the numberless factories, ironworks, foundries, and railways of the county; but, on the other hand, enormous quantities are sent by rail to London and all over the kingdom. The principal locality from whence these supplies are derived is that of Wigan, the cannel coal of which is in high reputation for producing a quickburning, blazing fire. The total area of the three coalfields is 217 square miles. The quantity of available coal is estimated by Mr. Hull at 3990 millions of tons, which he calculates will last for 263 years. This, however, was taken in 1860 at the average yield per annum of 11 millions of tons, whereas the output is now 13 millions.

MANUFACTURES. *Cotton.*—Volumes might be and have been written on the cotton trade and its various branches; but it is obviously out of the province of a Handbook to give any but the merest outline of this great industry, particularly as it affects the various localities in Lancashire. Indeed we may almost say that Lancashire is the cotton trade, so closely is the county identified with the manufacture.

As early as 1641 we hear, from a treatise published by Lewis Roberts, called the 'Treasure of Traffic,' that the Manchester people were in the habit of buying linen yarn from the Irish, and after weaving it, returning it for sale in a finished state. They also bought cotton wool that came from Smyrna to work into fustians and dimities. But the cotton of those days was rather obscure as to the material, and from various Acts and authorities it would seem to have been identical with the woollen cloth. Leland speaks of Bolton "standing by cottons," and an Act of Edward VI.'s reign provides "that all the cottons, called Manchester, Lancashire, and Cheshire cottons, first brought to the sale, shall be in length 22 yards, and contain in breadth three-quarters of a yard in the water, and shall weigh 30 lbs. in the piece at the least." This, therefore, must have applied to woollen textures; and Dr. Ure mentions that Kendal cottons are still so called, as they have been for the last 500 years, but that they consist of coarse wool. The fustians which old writers so frequently mention was either cotton by itself, or mixed with wool or linen. At all events it was imported into England from Antwerp and Ghent by the religious refugees who were artisans in this branch of trade, and a large number of whom settled in Bolton and Manchester. Here, therefore, is one direct reason why

the manufacture has taken root in Lancashire. It rapidly increased, fostered partly by the Warden and Fellows of the College, who gave strangers the liberty of cutting timber for constructing their looms at the small rental of 4*d.* each. Of such importance did the trade become, that in the reign of Elizabeth special Acts were passed for regulating the office of *aulneger*, or cloth-measurer, which had been in existence for a good many years, but had fallen into abeyance. The *aulneger* became an official of considerable dignity, and had deputies in Manchester, Rochdale, Blackburn, and Bury.

Dr. Stukeley mentions in his 'Itinerarium Curiosum' (early part of the 18th centy.) that the trade of Manchester in fustians, tuckings, tapes, &c., exceeded that of any other town in the kingdom. But, notwithstanding all this prosperity, the cotton trade had arrived at a point where it threatened to stand still altogether, partly from bad legislation, and partly for want of sufficient material, and the necessary machinery to work it up. In fact, the cotton goods at the commencement of the 18th centy. were not strictly cotton goods, the warp, which is the most valuable portion of the web, being made of linen yarn; and it was not until Arkwright introduced cotton twist for warp, that goods were really made of cotton altogether. These were manufactured to a considerable extent by Arkwright's partners at Derby, Messrs. Strutt and Need, who found, after a time, that the legislature not only imposed on their veritable cotton prints a double duty to what it imposed on mixed goods, but prohibited their sale in the home market. In George III.'s reign these absurd and mischievous laws were repealed as follows:—"Whereas a new manufacture of stuffs, made entirely of cotton spun in this kingdom, has been lately introduced, and some doubts were expressed whether it was lawful to use it, it was declared by Parliament to be not only a lawful, but a laudable manufacture, and, therefore, permitted to be used, on paying 3*d.* a square yard when printed, painted, or stained with colour."

The great impetus thus given to the trade by the abolishing of these prohibitory measures was followed up about this time by the vast improvements and undertakings of the Duke of Bridgewater, who, by his gigantic system of inland navigation, placed Manchester and the cotton districts in direct communication with the shipping port of Liverpool, thus cheapening the cost of the raw material and the manufactured goods, besides stirring up industries in a thousand ways, and imparting a new era of life not only to Lancashire, but to the kingdom in general. Still, the cotton trade was waiting for its great development. "It was estimated that, in 1760, the entire cotton manufacture of Manchester, and of any other and every other part of England, did not collectively exceed 200,000*l.* per annum; and it is, therefore, plain that its growth must have been very slow. The homely hand-cards combed out the cotton wool, the one-thread wheel spun it into yarn, and the plain hand-loom wove this yarn into cloth. But the carding, and spinning, and weaving, were all done under the humble roof of the workman, and he had often difficulty in adjusting the quantity of yarn spun to the quantity which he required for his weaving; and he had many a weary walk to buy materials and sell his produce."—*Land we Live in*. The minds of all interested in the trade were, therefore, fixed on devising

some means for improving the machinery for manufacture; for they felt that, if the present deficiency of cotton weft continued, especially as other marts were opening on the Continent, the trade stood a good chance of migrating elsewhere, and perhaps leaving England altogether.

The first tangible improvement in machinery was made by John Kay in 1738, a weaver of Bury, who invented the "fly-shuttle;" thus giving to weavers a more expeditious way of throwing their shuttle by means of the "picking peg" instead of by hand. This was not the same Kay who disputed with Arkwright subsequently the invention of roller spinners—and who had been employed by him to make his model, in consequence of his familiarity with intricate machinery, from being a clockmaker at Warrington. John Kay, of Bury, had a son, Robert, who followed up his father's ingenuity by devising the "drop-box," so as to enable the weaver to use any of his shuttles at will, and thus to weave a coloured fabric as easily as a plain one. In the same year that John Kay brought out his fly-shuttle, Lewis Paul and John Wyatt, both of Birmingham, took out a patent for spinning cotton and wool by rollers. They established a mill at Birmingham, and one was subsequently set up at Northampton in which they were interested. Ingenious as was the plan, the scheme failed, and Wyatt was ruined. Paul, however, who had nothing to lose, seems to have got on better, and subsequently brought out a new patent, founded on Wyatt's, with some additional improvements. But, after all said and done, they both failed to produce good yarn at remunerating prices, and their efforts gradually became things of the past. But the question of spinning by rollers once started, did not drop, and it was reserved for Arkwright, the Preston barber, to successfully perform this achievement, and manufacture good yarn in this way. His patent for drawing-rollers was taken out in 1769. He employed in this matter Kay, the clockmaker of Warrington, to make his models, and, soon afterwards, a great controversy arose, which terminated in a trial of Arkwright's patent in the King's Bench. It appears that Kay was employed by a man named Highs, a reed-maker, in 1767, to put together a model containing wooden rollers, whereupon Highs claimed to be the original inventor of the roller-spinning, and asserted that Arkwright had stolen it. But the result of the trial proved that Kay was a treacherous servant to both masters, and more particularly to Arkwright, and he appears to have put Highs up to the notion of disputing the invention. Highs certainly had some idea of it floating through his head, but he never produced any machine capable of doing work. About the same period another great invention had taken place, which, though travelling in a different groove from that of Arkwright's, was destined to make an equal revolution in the cotton manufacture. The common household wheel, which could only spin one thread at a time, was superseded, 1764, by *Hargreaves'* spinning-jenny, by which "several spindles, at first eight, afterwards eighty, were made to whirl by one fly-wheel, while a moveable frame, representing as many fingers and thumbs as there were threads, alternately receded from the spindles during the extension of the thread, and approached to them in its winding on." The spindles in this spinning-jenny were upright,

instead of being horizontal, as in the old wheel, and Hargreaves is said to have taken the idea from noticing a common wheel revolve after it was thrown on the floor with its spindle up. Secret as Hargreaves kept his invention, it leaked out through his wife, and a furious mob soon broke into his house and smashed his jenny, so that he migrated to Nottingham, where he took out his patent. Previously to this, however, he had, under pressure of starvation, made several machines; so that, when the time came for recompense for his patent, he found that it was extensively pirated, and he could get no compensation. Manufacturers in those days had no more conscience in such matters than they have now, and they reaped the benefit, while the inventor died heartbroken.

Arkwright may be said to be the father of the present factory system, which he established at Cromford in Derbyshire, having had too much experience of the obstinacy and malice of his neighbours to risk setting up a mill in his native county. Here he erected his original water-power spinning-machine in 1769, which he followed up in 1775 by fresh improvements for carding, drawing, and roving machines.

But even by his own family his venture was looked upon as very hazardous, and it is said that his wife felt so strongly about it that she separated from him, rather than hazard her fortune in the concern. Notwithstanding these discouragements the mill prospered, and turned out "warp and hosiery yarn as fine as 80's, or even 100's, that might bear a comparison with the firmest and most even water-twist of the present day." The Lancashire manufacturers were so disgusted with his success, that they stirred up the mob to burn a mill which he had built at Birkacre, near Chorley, and entered into a combination amongst themselves never to purchase any of his yarn. The same ignorant, miserable, spirit was seen also at Blackburn, when the mob attacked and burnt all jennies with more than 20 spindles, and so disgusted Mr. Peel (afterwards Sir Robert) that he withdrew for a long time to Burton-on-Trent.

Amongst those who successfully combated the storm was Mr. Dorning Rasbotham, an antiquary and learned gentleman who lived near Bolton, "who circulated a printed address among the weavers and hand-spinners, explaining to them that every contrivance for cheapening production would increase the demand for their goods and consequently the employment of their labour."—*Ure*.

The difference between Arkwright and Hargreaves' machines was this—the former was most suitable for spinning warp and hosiery yarns of a hard and compact fabric, while Hargreaves' was best adapted to soft worst yarn of lower numbers. But in 1786 a machine was invented by Samuel Crompton, which to a great degree superseded both. Like most of these discoverers, Crompton was a poor working man, residing at Hall-i'-the-Wood, near Bolton (Rte. 32), where he first made in secrecy the "mule" which had such a wonderful effect on the future of the cotton-trade. Like most of these secrets, he was soon forced to display it to the world, which gave him a better recognition of his merits than it did to previous inventors, for he obtained 5000*l.* from Parliament as a reward. Part of the principle of the mule was similar to Arkwright's, in as much as Crompton

used roller-beams, but the gist and great value of the machine was the spindle-carriage, which, by a hand-and-knee-movement, was made to recede just as the rollers delivered the thread in a soft state, "so that it would allow of a considerable stretch before the thread had to encounter the stress of winding on the spindle."—*Kennedy*.

Such an impetus was now given to the inventive faculty that a great many improvements speedily followed Crompton's mule, the principle of which was the "slubbing-billy,"—a combination of the mule and the jenny. In fact, so numerous did the modifications become, that the spinning-trade naturally grouped itself into separate branches, and thus produced the factory system,—to which one of the greatest contributors was the employment of steam. The first cotton-mill was erected on Shude Hill, Manchester, in 1780, and was driven by an hydraulic wheel, and nine years afterwards the first steam-factory was erected by Mr. Drinkwater. It is then only within the last 80 years that this intricate system has grown up to the extent and importance that it now occupies and has arrived at such an extraordinary degree of perfection.

"Our fine spinning-mills are the triumph of art and the glory of England. They need fear no competition, nor are they, in fact, objects of foreign rivalry. The delicacy of their machinery, the difficulty of keeping it in order, the dexterity of their hands, and the demand for their products, are well known to other nations."—*Tufnell*.

Having thus briefly spoken of the rise and progress of the cotton-trade as far as it affects Lancashire, we will now proceed to describe as briefly as possible the processes through which cotton has to go, and what a visitor may see in a walk through a factory. As a rule the mills and works of the north are sealed to the ordinary stranger. Not that there are any particular secrets which the owners fear to disclose, but because the frequent intrusions of people not connected with the work distract the attention of the hands and take up valuable time. On the other hand, there is no real difficulty of obtaining proper introductions to the owners of some one or other of the mills, and the visitor producing such is readily and courteously shown over it. But so great is the noise and the bewilderment that is frequently produced on the spectator for the first time, that he comes away with a very vague notion of the various processes that he has seen ; more particularly as his cicerone is usually under the impression that the constantly moving parts of the machinery are as easily understood by others as they are familiar to himself. Cotton-factories, as commonly so called, are susceptible of a good deal of distinction in their various branches, and may be divided roughly into cotton spinning-mills, where yarn is made ready for the weaver, mills where yarn is further spun into the form of thread, and mills where the after process of weaving is carried on. All these are further capable of subdivision, according to the numbers and quality of the yarn made and of the different sorts of goods into which the yarns are wove,—whether fustians, cotton-velvets, or what not. Add to these the printing, bleaching, and dyeing works, with the many trades dependent upon them in their turn, such as machinists, colour-grinders, and others,

and it may readily be imagined what a vast array of people is directly dependent on the organization of the cotton-trade.

Cotton in its natural and raw state is the filamentous down which covers the seeds of the plant called *gossypium*, and is, of all textile materials, the easiest to twist into a thread. There are many varieties of the *gossypium* plant, which has a large range of habitat, though America, the East Indies, and Egypt appear to be the countries in which it flourishes in the greatest perfection. The relative value of cotton in the market depends entirely on the fibres or filaments, which, when examined through the microscope, appear to be hollow cylinders. "The more nearly cylindrical they remain, the stronger and more pliant to the spindle will they be found. On these accounts, as well as from their greater length, the filaments of the Sea-Island, Egyptian, Guianian, and Brazilian cottons hold a higher value in the market than the Upland Georgian or the East Indian. In examining a sample of cotton-wool, the spinner draws it out slowly between the fore-fingers and thumbs of his two hands, and observes how the filaments successively escape from pressure. He then draws out the staple in the other direction, and thus alternately from hand to hand. In this manner he judges of the length, smoothness, fineness, and strength of the cotton."—*Dr. Ure*. America has for many years been the principal storehouse of supply to the Lancashire market, but the occurrence of the war produced such a failure in crops, and such a consequent starvation of cotton yield, that merchants were obliged to look to other countries for help. The result has been that India, which was before a very small item in cotton statistics, has become a most important feeder, every year seeing a fresh increase in the amount grown and sent over here. Egypt and the Mediterranean, too, have become large suppliers. The main distinction between cottons in the pod is that of blackseeded and greenseeded—the former of which part with their downy wool very readily when operated upon by a pair of rollers worked by hand, while the latter retains its wool with a much greater force, and requires to be *ginned*, which is performed by a powerful revolving saw-mechanism worked by water or steam. After the wool is separated from the seeds, it is packed in large canvas bags by an hydraulic press, each bag containing about 500 lbs.

It is up to this point that Liverpool is interested more than Manchester, as all the cotton bales have to come through that port, and thus give employment to an immense amount of money, work, and speculation. "Cotton is sold at Liverpool by brokers, who are employed by the importers, and are charged 10s. per cent. for their trouble in valuing and selling it. The buyers, who are the Manchester cotton-dealers and the spinners all over the country, also employ brokers, at the same rate of commission, to make their purchases. The cotton is principally bought and sold by samples, the purchasers very rarely considering it necessary to examine the bulk."—*Baines*. Unfortunately, speculation often runs riot in Liverpool, and thousands and thousands of pounds are bought up within the hour for the purpose of reselling again at an infinitesimal rise in the market. But it frequently happens, on the other hand, that cotton goes down, which causes great wailing and gnashing of teeth amongst the brokers.

The bales having been unshipped and brought to Manchester, are conveyed to the factory from the railway station by "lorries," a vehicle peculiar to Manchester, hundreds of which the visitor may see in any of the warehouse streets.

The cotton, then, having been hauled up into the factory, is first subjected to the action of the "*willow*," a box made of wood or iron with revolving iron spikes. In this it is cleaned by loosening the large flocks and shaking the dust out of them. Spiked willows should be used with caution on long-stapled cottons, as it draws them into knots; but when coarse cottons are worked, such as Surats and Bengals, the self-acting conical willow of Mr. Lillie is used. The cotton is put in at the narrow end of the cone, rapidly revolved and wafted towards the broad end, while the impurities are shaken out at the perforated bottom and sucked up by a fan. The old-fashioned name of this machine is the well-deserved one of the Devil. The cotton is then still further cleaned by the "scutcher" and "blower," the object of which is thoroughly to loosen the filaments already partially cleaned by the willow, and to carry off, through fans, the residue of the dust. The cotton is carried by a travelling creeper to the feeding rollers, and thence to the "beater"—which by means of flat bars carried rapidly round at the rate of 800 times a minute, frees it still further from impurities, and passes it on by a current of air (*blowing*) to a revolving cage, and thence, by a second travelling creeper, to a receptacle, whence it is taken to the "*lap*" machine, in which the cotton, after being scutched and blown, is coiled up in a fleece on a wooden roller at the delivery end of the apparatus. The scutching and lap machines are frequently combined, the cotton being turned out at once in the form of a cylindrical lap, thus saving the labour of gathering and spreading. A scutching machine will prepare about 5000 lbs. of cotton per week, that is of average staple; different qualities requiring different degrees of scutching: the short and soft staples take less beating than the fine and long ones.

But the filaments of the cotton have to be still further disentangled and laid lengthways, instead of being doubled up and convoluted as they appear when leaving the scutching and lap machines, and this is carried out by the "*carding*" machine, which was mainly the invention of Lewis Paul of Northampton, as far as the cylinder cards were concerned. The principle of it consists in the mutual action of two opposite surfaces, studded thickly with obliquely placed hooks.

It is, in fact, one or more cylinder cards covered with card leather, and a set of plain surfaces similarly covered, made to work against each other, but so that their points do not come into absolute contact. Each flock of wool, therefore, experiences the tender mercies of each set of teeth, one set trying to pull the filaments away with them while the other endeavours to retain them. The ultimate effect is to draw out the fibres and place them parallel with each other.

The cotton is delivered from the lap on to a series of these revolving card-covered cylinders called "squirrels," which work very close to, but not touching the central drum cylinder. As the squirrels revolve with different degrees of speed, and are placed at varying distances from the

drum, the filaments cannot possibly escape, but have the knots which passed through one set of squirrels teased out by another. At the opposite of the drum cylinder is a smaller one called the "*doffer*," which comes in contact with it and strips off the filaments from it, becoming itself clothed with a very fine and beautiful fleece. But as the fleece goes round on the doffer it meets a sharp blade of steel, called the "*doffer-knife*," which shears it off from the doffer and forms it into a riband by passing it through a funnel, when the riband becomes what is called a "*sliver*." As an example of the enormous extension which the filaments undergo in the carding machine, it may be mentioned that a lap of 30 ft. when introduced by the feed rollers becomes, when detached by the doffer-knife, a fleecy web of 2262 ft. in length. An improvement was made in 1844 upon the carding machine, which often broke the fibres, in the shape of the combing machine, which possessed the property of separating the long fibres from the short ones and laying the fibres parallel. The combing machine most in use in this county is the invention of M. Heilmann of Mulhausen. The lap is placed on revolving rollers and conducted to a steel roller which places it between the open jaws of a nipper. The nipper then approaches the comb cylinder, when it holds the fibres so as to allow the comb to remove all impurities and broken cotton. When the combs have passed through the cotton the nipper recedes, opens its jaws, and allows the partially combed fibres to be drawn into a continuous sliver, and the united slivers pass through the drawing head to undergo the operation of "*drawing*." The drawing frame, of which Arkwright was the inventor, still further carries on the process of drawing out and elongating the slivers or ribands of cotton, strengthening the filaments and laying them parallel, by the action of revolving rollers, which grasp the slivers between them. But were the drawing of a riband of cotton continued till all its fibres acquired the proper degree of parallelism, it would be apt, from excessive attenuation, to tear across. This is provided against by "*doubling*," viz., laying several ribands together at every repetition of the process, and incorporating them by pressure of the rollers. The inequalities of the riband thus disappear, and in proportion as the drawings are finer the yarns will be finer. The manufacturer has now got an uniform riband, but it still is not strong or coherent enough for spinning. This is acquired by "*slubbing*," in which the sliver receives a twist, seeing that the elongated slivers of parallel filaments could not bear any further extension without breaking, unless they were condensed so as to give cohesion. The "*roving*" process is a refinement on slubbing. "At first the tension is slight, in proportion to the extension, since the solidity of the still coarse sliver needs that cohesion, and only in a small degree, and looseness of texture must be maintained to facilitate to the utmost the further elongation." By the old roving frame the delicate texture of the yarn used to be seriously injured, until Messrs. Higgins of Salford invented the "*bobbin and fly*" frame, which is now used in almost all the factories and gives two especial movements: 1, the twisting action; 2, the winding-on motion. It is intensely complicated, but easily managed, delivering from each spindle in the day from 6 to 8 lbs. of "*roving*." One person

can superintend two frames, piece the broken slivers and replace full bobbins by empty ones. The rovings, made on the bobbin and fly, or in the "tube roving" frame, another variety of machine for the same end, but usually used for coarser spinnings, are either spun into yarn directly or are further prepared in the "stitching" frame or stitching mule, which is only required for fine work, and is, in fact, a still further attenuation of the roving. As may easily be imagined, the material, after having undergone such a series of beating, blowing, teasing, combing, drawing, doubling, and roving, is in a very tender state indeed, and requires careful handling so as not to injure the yarn.

We now come to the finishing process in which the roving is spun into yarn by different machines according to the quality required. These two machines are the *throstle* and the *mule*. The throstle, or water frame (in consequence of which the yarn is called "water-twist"), was the invention of Arkwright, and performs the twisting and winding simultaneously upon progressive portions of the roving. While in the mule the thread is drawn out and stitched till a length of about 5 ft. is attained—then the tension is completed and the spinning suspended, while the finished thread is being wound up upon the spindles into double conical coils called "cops." "Throstle yarn is smooth and wiry, while the mule yarn is of a soft and downy nature. The former is usually employed for warps in heavy goods, such as fustians, cords, or for making sewing threads, and the latter for the weft in coarse goods, as well as for both warp and weft in finer fabrics."

Before Crompton invented the mule it was a great thing to spin yarn of No. 40—it being understood that these numbers denote the respective fineness by the number of hanks which it takes to make a pound weight, each hank containing 840 yards. Arkwright, however, soon began to produce on his water frame yarn of 80 or even 100—so did Crompton. But the amazing rapidity with which spinning has attained its perfection may be imagined by the fact that the Messrs. Houldsworth of Manchester have spun yarn of No. 460—in other words yarn of which one pound contains 386,400 yards, or 220 miles—reaching further than the distance between London and Paris! The throstle, which has superseded the water frame, nevertheless has the same mechanical spinning fingers. Generally speaking the number of spindles on a throstle frame 12 ft. long is 60 on each side, and one woman and an assistant piecer can manage 240 spindles. It is their duty to mind the broken ends, replace the empty bobbins in the creel with full ones, and the full bobbins on the throstle by empty ones. In a week of 69 hours, the average quantity of yarn turned out is about 24 hanks per spindle of 300 twist. The mule is mounted with from 240 to 1000 spindles, and spins as many threads, whereas in Hargreaves' old jenny only from 16 to 40 could be spun. The mule is mainly divided into two parts: 1, the fixed one containing the drawing roller beam and fixed machinery; 2, the carriage in which the spindles and moving apparatus are placed. One spinner can attend to two mules which face each other, so that he need only turn round from one mule to the other. The carriage of the one mule is thus in the act of going out spinning, while that of the

other is finishing its twist. The quantity of yarn manufactured by a mule in a given time depends upon the number of the spindles, and the time taken to complete each stitch of the carriage. The finer the yarn the slower the spinning, and the better the staple of the cotton wool, and the more careful its preparation, the more excellent will be the spinning.

The self-acting Mule, or Iron Man, performs nearly everything itself, and requires only some juvenile hands to piece the broken yarns, and to stop it when the cop is quite formed, which it announces itself by ringing a bell. The best known of these is Roberts' self-actor, of which there are half-a-million spindles at work. These are made at Messrs. Sharp, Roberts, and Co.'s factory, in Manchester. Further, the yarn is wound into hanks from the bobbins of the throstle, or the cops of the mule, by an automatic reel. The visitor who has seen all these processes in succession has followed the cotton from its raw state into one fit for weaving. A large proportion of the yarn, however, is used for making different kinds of thread, such as sewing-thread, bobbin-net, stocking-thread, &c. Ordinary sewing-thread consists of two or more single yarns laid parallel and twisted together. The fine yarns which are used for lace, usually Nos. 140 to 250, are previously subjected to the influence of a series of gas jets, by which they are slightly singed or "gassed." The threads, after being gassed, are then passed through a solution of weak starch, which makes them more compact and smooth. They are then doubled and twisted in machines specially adapted for them.

We now come to the weaving processes, which are not so much confined to the Lancashire manufacturing towns as are those for spinning, for much of the yarn is sent to the Continent to be there wove; and a considerable quantity is dispersed over the country districts. In many a Lancashire hamlet and village the visitor may notice the long window in the upper story of the cottage, and if he halts, may hear the clash of the weaver's shuttle, as he pursues his work. But the handloom weaver must sooner or later be a thing of the past, for powerlooms, with the giant steam to back them up, are increasing everywhere, and must rapidly cause hand-work to disappear.

"Weaving may be defined as the art of making cloth by the rectangular decussation of flexible fibres, of which the longitudinal are called the warp, or chain, and the transverse the woof, or weft. The former extends through the whole length of the web, and the latter over its breadth. The outside thread on each side of the warp, round which the woof-thread returns in the act of decussation, is called the selvage, or list."—*Ure*. The first operation of weaving is "warping," which is done in a warping machine, and consists of laying the whole number of threads which are to form the warp alongside of each other in a parallel plane. This is frequently done by hand. A prismatic shaped cage, about 7 feet high, is turned easily round by a rope and wheel worked by the warper, and on the outside of this cage is wound the warp-yarn from top to bottom from off a frame full of bobbins mounted on spindles. Upon this operation being nicely performed, and the warp having an equal tension, depends the character of the weaving. The warp is then taken through the "dressing"

or sizing machine, where it is subjected to a brushing with thin size, or paste; and after undergoing this, is transferred to the weaving loom, whether hand or power loom, and this at once branches off from the plainest weaving to the most complex and brilliant patterns. Figures, or patterns, are obtained by using threads of different colours and texture, either in the warp or weft; but for these purposes the "draw-loom" is most generally used, especially for weaving spotted muslins, damasks, and carpets in which many brilliant colours are required. In all large factories the power-loom (and generally that of Messrs. Sharp, Roberts, and Co.) is used, and a large room filled with these automata, working as regularly as though they had reasoning powers, is one of the most wonderful sights in the world. "In these power-loom steam power may be said to do everything. It unwinds the warp from the warp-beam; it lifts and depresses the treddles, by which the warp-threads are placed in the proper position for receiving the weft-threads; it throws the shuttle from side to side, carrying the weft-thread with it; it moves the batten, or lay, by which the weft-thread is drawn up close; and, finally, it winds the woven cloth on the cloth-beam which is to receive it. The female who has to manage a pair of looms has merely to attend to a few minor adjustments, which altogether about occupy her time; such as mending any of the threads which may have been broken, removing an empty shuttle and replacing it with a full one, removing an empty warp-beam, or a filled cloth-beam, and substituting others fitted for continuing the process."

A very large trade is carried on in Lancashire in the weaving of fustians, cords, and velveteens, which, after being woven, are steeped in hot water to take out the sizing. Special apparatus is used for raising the pile and cutting it with a peculiar knife, although in many places, such as Lymm, in Cheshire, a considerable number of persons gain their livelihood by cutting fustians by hand.

An enormous number of people find employment in the bleaching the woven cloth after it comes from the factory. As pure air and water were formerly the desiderata for good bleaching, nearly all the bleach-works were placed as far as possible from the towns, and on the banks of a stream in the early part of its course, before it became defiled. In the earlier stages of the bleaching trade, indeed, cloths were bleached simply by exposure to the atmosphere, which, of course, took days, weeks, and even months; but of late years the science of chemistry has advanced so fast, that a few hours now suffice. When the bundles of cloth arrive at the works they are tacked together, till a length of several hundred yards is obtained, which is passed over a strip of heated copper, so as to singe off the loose filaments. The piece of cloth is then still further lengthened, and taken to the bleach-house, where it undergoes an immense number of successive washings and soakings in bleaching-powder liquors. The following is the process in its order: 1, washing, to get rid of the warping size; 2, boiling in lime water; 3, washing; 4, steeping in dilute sulphuric acid; 5, washing; 6, boiling in soda solution; 7, washing; 8, steeping in bleaching-powder solution; 9, steeping in dilute sulphuric

acid ; 10, washing ; 11, boiling in soda ; 12, washing ; 13, steeping in bleaching liquid ; 14, steeping in dilute acid ; 15, washing. After the cloth has undergone this monotonous manipulation, it is untacked, dried in a steam-heated room, and packed. If it has to show a nice gloss and additional smoothness, it is taken to be *calendered*. A vast amount of the bleached cotton wove goods is exported as plain bleached calico ; but a still larger quantity is sent to the *printers*, where by a most ingenious application of the mechanical and chemical arts, it becomes impressed with every variety of pretty colours and patterns. Calico printing is, in fact, the art of producing a pattern on cotton cloth by printing in colours, or mordants, which become colours when afterwards dyed. Linen, silk, wool, &c., are all adapted for printing, but linen does not take such good colours, in consequence of the small affinity that flax has for mordants. Printing was first begun in Lancashire in 1764 by Mr. Clayton, of Bamber Bridge, near Preston. The cloth which was used was made with linen warp and cotton weft, and principally manufactured at Blackburn, which was for long the chief seat of the printing trade ; but the introduction of powerloom cloth caused it subsequently to migrate to Stockport and Staley Bridge. The Claytons were succeeded by Mr. Robert Peel, who carried on the business at Brookside, near Blackburn ; but printing has now so enormously increased, that the weight of cotton used is one-seventh of the entire importation into this country. As in bleaching, the first step is to remove the fibrous down from the surface by passing it rapidly over a flame of gas or hot plates, the latter more frequently. The old-fashioned way of printing was by blocks, but this has been almost entirely superseded by cylinder printing, which was first invented in 1785 by the Preston firm of Livesey, Hargreaves, and Co., and this was followed up in 1805 by James Burton's invention of the mule machine, working with one or two engraved copper cylinders, and one or two wooden rollers engraved in relief.

By cylinder printing a colour or colours are rapidly printed from engraved copper cylinders or rollers by the mere rotation of the machine. The cylinders were formerly engraved by hand, but the American plan of Mr. Perkins for transferring engraving from one surface to another, by means of steel roller-dies, was applied by Mr. Locke to calico printing. By his excentric engraving, or etching, are produced on a varnished roller the most curious patterns by means of diamond points. All the labour required for cylinder printing is one man to regulate the rollers, and a couple of boys to supply the colours, and these three can do as much work as 200 men used to be able to turn out with blocks. Four, five, and six-colour machines are now in use, which will turn out a piece of 200 yards in a minute, each of the cylinders applying its peculiar portion of the pattern to the cloth as it passes along. The process of printing is as follows :—the pieces to be printed are wound on a beam, and last of all a few yards of common coarse cotton or calico, kept for this purpose. This is for the printer to put the pattern on, to save good cloth. The roll being put in its place behind the machine, the printer's assistant stations himself also behind, to guide the cloth evenly and pluck off any loose threads that

he may see. The master printer stands in front, and after having fitted the pattern on the cloth, attends to supplying the boxes with colour, and regulating any inequality in the printing. The machine then prints rapidly. After running through thirty or forty pieces, he removes the "doctors," and brings them anew to a sharp bevelled edge.—*Ure*. The "doctors" are thin plates of steel, for cleaning the superfluous colour from off the rollers. Printers of goods for hangings have machines capable of printing ten to twenty colours at once. At the Castleton Print Works, near Rochdale, woollen fabrics are printed with beautiful floral patterns, in imitation of the French goods. One great point to be attended to in the calico is its hygrometric state, as dry calico does not take the colours so well as when containing a certain amount of moisture. This is arrived at by keeping the pieces in a large room to absorb moisture, or by passing them through an artificial mixture of air and aqueous vapour. This process is called "ageing." The proper thickness of mordants and colours is also a necessary precaution, as a thin solution would have a tendency to run. Great sharpness of outline is produced by means of thick colour on engraved plates, under severe pressure, and when colours can be laid on the outside of the cloth, so as not to penetrate, great brightness of shade is produced.

The colours are placed in ranges of pans to be boiled, and stirred mechanically. Thickening substances are used in the various mordants and colours, such as wheat-flour, starch, gum tragacanth, &c.

Mordants, the manufacture of which, and of dye-wood decoctions, is quite a separate trade, are not colouring matters themselves, but act by combining with both the cloth and colouring matter, and, chemically speaking, they are generally acetates of iron and alumina. The following list of the principal styles of printing will give some idea of their complications :—

1st style, Madders ; 2nd, Garancin ; 3rd, Reserved ; 4th, Padded ; 5th, Indigo ; 6th China Blues ; 7th, Discharge on Turbary Red Ground ; 8th Steam Colours ; 9th, Spirit Colours ; 10th, Bronzes ; 11th, Pigment Painting.

Of all the innumerable subdivisions of labour which these great ramifications of the cotton trade cause, it is impossible to give any attempt in detail, but some idea may be formed of the minutia, by the following classified list of the Lancashire trades, inasmuch as they are in connection with the factory system :—

Baize manufactures ; bandana printers ; beetle makers ; beetle finishers ; belt manufacturers ; blanket manufacturers ; bleachers ; bobbin turners ; bobbin winders ; bolster makers ; boxwood dealers ; brace manufacturers ; braid manufacturers ; calenderers ; calico manufacturers ; calico dressers ; calico print engravers ; calico printers ; cambric manufacturers ; canvas manufacturers ; candle-wick makers ; card-tackle makers ; carmine makers ; case hardeners ; check manufacturers ; chenille manufacturers ; clog-arm makers ; clog-block dealers ; clog-tip makers ; clog-iron makers ; cloth agents ; cloth dressers ; cloth remnant dealers ; coach-lace manufacturers ; colour grinders ; comb manufacturers ; combing motion makers ; comb printers ; cop-tube makers ; cord manufacturers ; cotton dealers ; cotton doublers ; cotton manufacturers ; cotton printers ; cotton rovers ; cotton sizers ; cotton

spinners; cotton-band makers; cotton-cloth manufacturers; cotton-gin makers; cotton polishers; cotton hard waste makers; cotton heald-yarn manufacturers; cotton-warp manufacturers; cotton warpers; cotton-tick manufacturers; cotton print dealers; cotton waste breakers; cotton waste dealers; counterpane manufacturers; crape manufacturers; damask manufacturers; designers; devil makers; diaper cloth manufacturers; die-sinkers; doctor makers; doffing-plate makers; domett makers; D'Oyley makers; drawing-frame makers; dressers; drill makers; dye extract makers; dye-wood grinders; dyers; dyers' utensil makers; elastic web makers; embossers; embossed press manufacturers; embroiderers; emery rollers; engine-waste manufacturers; fabric manufacturers; felt manufacturers; felt dealers; finishers; flannel manufacturers; flax spinners; flock manufacturers; fringe manufacturers; frilling millers; fur blowers; fustian cutters; fustian finishers; gaiter makers; galloon manufacturers; gambroon manufacturers; garancine makers; gimp manufactures; gingham manufacturers; gold-thread manufacturers; hair-seating makers; hair-net makers; heald knitters; heald manufacturers; hot pressers; jaconet manufacturers; Jacquard-loom makers; jean manufacturers; jeannette manufacturers; kersey manufacturers; lace manufacturers; lath dealers; lath renders; lappet manufacturers; loom makers; loom-cloth manufacturers; loom-spring manufacturers; lubricator manufacturers; machine manufacturers; machine-roller makers; machine-strap manufacturers; madder grinders; mill furnishers; mill-chisel makers; moleskin makers; mordant makers; mould-pattern manufacturers; mousseline-de-laine manufacturers; mill makers; muslin manufacturers; nankeen manufacturers; packers; pattern-card makers; picker maker; printers; printers' block manufacturers; quilt manufacturers; reed manufacturers; reduction workers; regatta makers; ribbon manufacturers; roller manufacturers; roller-leather manufacturers; satteen manufacturers; sheeting manufacturers; shirting manufacturers; shoddy breakers; shoe-thread manufacturers; shuttle makers; shuttle-peg makers; silk manufacturers; silk printers; silk spinners; silk throwsters; silk weavers; sizers; skein printers; skewer makers; spindle manufacturers; spindle-band manufacturers; stiffeners; stretchers; stuff manufacturers; tarpaulin manufacturers; tape manufacturers; tag manufacturers; tarlatan manufacturers; temple manufacturers; thatchers; thread doublers; thread polishers; throstle makers; ticking manufacturers; tow spinners; towelling manufacturers; twill manufacturers; twist spinners; velvet manufacturers; velveteen manufacturers; warp manufacturers; warp sizers; warpers; waste manufacturers; wadding manufacturers; waste dressers; weft manufacturers; weft-fork makers; willow manufacturers; winders; wincey manufacturers; wool carders; wool spinners; wool manufacturers; wool-card manufacturers; wool printers; worsted makers; worsted spinners; yarn agents; yarn doublers; yarn manufacturers.

It will not be out of place to close this brief outline of the manufacturing community with a few statistics regarding the present condition of the cotton trade. Since the American war the price of cotton has been so high, and consequently of cotton goods, that it has stimulated

the introduction of woollen and linen goods. "The war has completely changed the relative positions of the textiles, and cotton instead of the cheapest, became the dearest article of clothing. The production of wool and flax was stimulated in an extraordinary degree by the advance which immediately occurred in prices, and the consumption of woollen and linen fabrics was enormously increased, woollen cloth superseded fustian, and calico shirting gave way to woollen and linen." The import of cotton in 1869 amounted to only 3,382,620 bales, weighing 1,198,354,550 lbs. This was 277,510 bales less than in 1868. The imports of India exceed those of 1868 by 44,540 bales, and those from the Mediterranean by 30,190 bales, but in the supplies from the United States and South America there is a considerable deficiency. "There are now, by the latest official returns, 32,000,000 spindles in the kingdom against 30,000,000 in 1860, so that to give full employment to the spinning powers now in existence, we should require 55,210 bales of 400 lb. each per week, instead of 45,140 bales per week last year. From this it appears that our mills were only working $4\frac{1}{2}$ days per week on an average during 1869."—*Cotton Circular*.

The total weight of yarns and manufactured goods produced in 1869 reached to 817,000,000 lbs., which was $5\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. less than in 1868.

III.—COMMUNICATIONS.

I.—SHROPSHIRE.

For an agricultural district few counties are better supplied with facilities for travelling than Salop, mainly owing to its being on the high road between South Wales and Lancashire on the one hand, London and North Wales on the other.

The Great Western and London and North-Western systems supply the county almost exclusively. Access from South Wales is given by the jointly worked line of the *Hereford, Ludlow, and Shrewsbury*. From this a branch is thrown off (Great Western Railway) from *Wooferton*, to *Tenbury and Bewdley*, there joining the Severn valley. A second cross connection is given by the branch from *Craven Arms to Wenlock and Buildwas*, while to the W. runs from the same junction (Craven Arms) the short line to *Bishop's Castle*, and the important trunk rly. of the *Central Wales*, to Knighton, Llandrindod, Llandoverly, Caermarthen, and Swansea. A direct route is thus opened from Manchester and Liverpool to the western parts of South Wales. The *Severn Valley* follows the course of that river from Worcester, or rather Hartlebury Junct., entering Shropshire at Bewdley, and running by Bridgnorth to Ironbridge and Shrewsbury. At Buildwas it is joined by the *Coalbrook Dale and Wellington* line, which, together with the *Wolverhampton, Wellington, and Shrewsbury*

Rly., accommodates the Shropshire coalfield. The remainder of this busy district is served by the London and North-Western, a portion of which, the *Shropshire Union*, connects Stafford with Newport, Wellington, and Shrewsbury. A subsidiary branch of the same company bisects the coalfield to *Coalport*, near Ironbridge.

So much for the southern portion of the county; but once past Shrewsbury the two great systems diverge, each going its own way. The Great Western has a route to Manchester by the *Wellington, Market Drayton*, and *Nantwich* line, and on to *Chester* and *Birkenhead* through *Oswestry* (Gobowen Junc.) and *Chirk*. The London and North-Western line runs from Shrewsbury to *Wem, Whitchurch, Nantwich*, and *Crewe*. At *Whitchurch* the *Cambrian* system, which is worked in harmony with the London and North-Western Company, commences by a line to *Ellesmere* and *Whittington*, thence to *Oswestry* and *Aberystwith* through *Montgomeryshire*. Another section of the same line runs direct from *Shrewsbury* to join the main line at *Welshpool*, throwing off a short branch to *Minsterley*. Another line, hitherto worked under difficulties, is called the *Shrewsbury, North Wales, and Potteries* Rly., and runs from *Llan-y-blodwell* to *Shrewsbury*, not having reached the *Potteries* yet.

Canals.—The local canals in Shropshire are: 1. The *Shrewsbury* canal, which starts from the *Severn* near that town, and runs N. of *Wellington* through the coal district to *Coalport*. The latter portion was the original Shropshire canal, the first ever made in the county. A branch is sent off from near *Eyton*, past *Newport*, to join the *Birmingham* and *Liverpool* canal, which is carried near the N.E. boundary to *Market Drayton* and *Nantwich*. The *Chester* and *Ellesmere* canal serves as a waterway to the N.W. corner, and is remarkable for the gigantic works on its course. Its different ramifications are these; “a branch passes northward near *Ellesmere, Whitchurch, Nantwich*, and the city of *Chester* to *Ellesmere Port* on the *Mersey* (Rte. 25); another in a S.E. direction, through the middle of Shropshire towards *Shrewsbury* on the *Severn*; and a third, in a south-westerly direction, by the town of *Oswestry* to the *Montgomeryshire* canal near *Llanymynach*—its whole extent, including the *Chester* canal incorporated with it, being about 112 miles.”—*Smiles*. Telford’s greatest works on this canal were the *Chirk* aqueduct over the *Ceiriog* (Rte. 9), and *Pontcysylltau* over the *Dee*, near *Llangollen*. Telford was also the engineer of the *Shrewsbury* canal, the work of which was so far interesting that a new principle was adopted by him in his bridges. Writing in 1795, he says: “Although this canal is only 18 miles long, yet there are many important works in its course, several locks, a tunnel about half a mile long, and two aqueducts. For the most considerable of these I have just recommended an aqueduct of *iron*. It has been approved, and will be executed under my direction, upon a principle entirely new, and which I am endeavouring to establish with regard to the application of *iron*.”

II.—CHESHIRE.

The systems that give railway accommodation to Cheshire are the London and North-Western, Great Western, Cheshire Midland, Midland, Manchester, Sheffield, and Lincolnshire, and the North Staffordshire. The most important of them is the *London and North-Western*, which, entering the county near Crewe, its great manufacturing junction, sends radiations northwards like a fan, that on the right running to Alderley, Stockport, and Manchester, and sending off a short branch from Sandbach to *Northwich*. The middle line is the great trunk line between London and Scotland, and runs through the most fertile portion of Cheshire to Hartford Bridge and Warrington. Its only branches are a short line from Acton to Northwich, and the direct Liverpool line from Preston Brook to Runcorn, where it crosses the Mersey (Rte. 17). The left wing of the fan is formed by the Chester and Holyhead, an equally important trunk line to Ireland. The same company have a branch from Stockport to Macclesfield, thus including the silk district in the carrying system. The Manchester and Buxton line enters the county on the extreme E., and has a course of a few miles from Whaley Bridge to Stockport. The Great Western obtains access to Manchester and Liverpool through Cheshire. It enters the county on the W. at Gresford, and at Chester bifurcates—to the N.W. running through the district of Wirral to Birkenhead, where ferry boats are in constant activity to the opposite shore—to the N.E. to Frodsham and Warrington, whence the company has running powers over the London and North-Western rails to Manchester. Neither of these lines is confined to the Great Western Rly., but are jointly worked with the London and North-Western. There are two short branches on them; one to the little watering-place of Parkgate, the other from Sutton to Helsby, cutting off an angle, so that the passengers from Birkenhead to Manchester may save going round by Chester.

The *Cheshire Midland* principally accommodates the salt districts, which until of late years were without any railways at all. It commences at Altrincham, where it takes up the running from a short line called the *Manchester South Junction* and *Altrincham*, and then plunges into the heart of Cheshire to Knutsford and Northwich. It thence runs to Winsford in one direction, to Winnington in another, and to Frodsham in a third, so that all the saline districts are put into direct communication with one another, as also with their port.

The *Midland* Company has only a short course through Cheshire. It approaches Manchester from Buxton, entering the county at Marple, and keeping close to the E. boundary, at the corner of which it joins the Manchester, Sheffield, and Lincolnshire Rly. The Midland obtains a share of the silk district traffic by a short branch from Marple, through Bollington and Macclesfield.

The *Manchester, Sheffield, and Lincolnshire*, is what we may term a border line. A portion of its main line from Manchester to Hull runs

through the eastern handle of Cheshire, sending off a branch to Hyde and Stockport, and serving the factory districts of Mottram and Glossop. From Stockport it obtains an entry to Liverpool by means of a line through Cheadle, Lymm, Warrington, Widness, and Garston, the greater portion of which runs (as far as Warrington) on the S. bank of the Mersey. This rly. is, however, a sort of "highway of nations" as it is used also by the Midland, London and North-Western, and by the *North Staffordshire*, which finds its principal customers in the silk district. It starts from Crewe *en route* for the Potteries, but at Harecastle sends an important branch to the N. to Congleton and Macclesfield. By means of this line Manchester and Macclesfield obtain another and independent route to London. Last and not least is the little *Hoylake* line, a local railwayette which brings the Liverpool business men from their offices to the seaside; but Birkenhead should not be passed over in connection with locomotion, without mention of its street tramways, which have there proved such a success, and are likely to be the pioneers of a great movement.

Canals.—The *Grand Trunk Canal*, before the age of railways one of the first means of communication that existed in Central England, enters Cheshire from Staffordshire, near Lawton or Harecastle, and thence traverses the salt districts of Wheelock, Winsford, and Northwich, to Preston Brook, where it joins the *Bridgewater Canal* system. This enters the county at Ashton near Stafford, and follows the course of the Mersey to Lymm. It leaves Warrington to the rt., and enters the high grounds in the North of Cheshire, forming a junction at Preston Brook with the Grand Trunk. It has its final termination at Runcorn, the scene of one of Brindley's finest works (Rte. 24). The *Mersey and Irwell Canal* is a short cut between Warrington and Runcorn, so as to obviate the windings of the river.

The *Chester and Nantwich Canal* enters the county near Audlem, and runs to Chester, where it forms a junction with the Dee, and also with the *Dee and Mersey Canal*, the termination of which is Ellesmere Port on the Mersey. A branch is sent off to Middlewich, and another to Whitchurch. The *Macclesfield Canal* starts from the Grand Junction at Harecastle, and runs to Congleton, Macclesfield, and Marple, where it unites with the *Peak Forest Canal*, between Whaley Bridge and Guide Bridge. It will be seen therefore that Cheshire is amply supplied with railway and canal accommodation.

III.—LANCASHIRE.

The attentive student of Bradshaw, as he draws nearer to the North of England, becomes more and more alive to the difficulties of the situation, and arrives at the height of his embarrassment when he sees the intricate network which connects the manufacturing towns of Lancashire. But with a little care and arrangement, the puzzle is soon solved. Lancashire

is, in fact, admirably supplied with railways, which the rapid and constant intercourse between the factory towns renders absolutely necessary, and it will be found that nearly all the lines are in the hands of two or three companies, it being evident that only by the harmonious working of the whole would traffic be accommodated with any facility and economy.

The Companies that hold Lancashire are the London and North-Western, the Lancashire and Yorkshire, the Furness Company, and, to a very small extent, the Midland.

The *London and North-Western* is in great force, and carries on the trunk connection between London and the North. From Warrington, where it issues from Cheshire, it runs due N. to Newton, Wigan, Preston, Lancaster, and Kendal; but during the whole of this long lead it gives off no branches, except a very short one from Hest Bank to Morecambe. In fact it leaves the local traffic to local lines.

The line between Manchester and Liverpool (Rte. 37), the first passenger line of any length opened in England, belongs to the same Company, and gives off the following branches: 1, from Eccles to Wigan *via* Tyldesley; 2, from Kenyon Junction to Leigh and Bolton; 3, to St. Helen's, from whence a newly made rly. runs to Wigan, Chorley, and Blackburn. The London and North-Western also work the line between Manchester and Leeds, which quits the county at Mossley.

The *Lancashire and Yorkshire* Company have decidedly the lion's share of Lancashire traffic. It is difficult to say which is the main line, as they all seem to be of equal importance; but the least embarrassing way is to divide them into E. and W. sections. The E. section starts from Liverpool (Tithebarn Street), and (1) runs by Ormskirk to Preston and Blackburn, Burnley and Colne, giving off (2) a line to Bootle and Southport, and (3) an important branch to Wigan, Bolton, Bury, and Rochdale—thus tapping the county in its centre. (4) A cross line runs from Widness opposite Runcorn by St. Helen's and Rainford to Ormskirk, and (5) a second cross line from Wigan to Southport. (6) From Preston runs the Wyre rly. to Fleetwood, giving off a (7) short branch to Lytham, and (8) another to Blackpool. The western section has Manchester for its starting-point connecting that city with (9) Bolton, Chorley, and Preston, and sending off a short branch (10) from Horwich to Wigan. (11) From Bolton a line runs due N. to Blackburn, Whalley, and Clitheroe, while (12) another is carried from Manchester to Bury, Haslingden, and Accrington, giving off (13) a branch to Bacup and the Forest of Rossendale.

One of the most important Lancashire lines is (14) that between Manchester, Rochdale, Todmorden, and Burnley, which in its course sends off short branches to (15) Middleton, (16) Oldham, and (17) Royton. At Todmorden the main line enters Yorkshire and becomes equally ubiquitous.

The *Manchester, Sheffield, and Lincolnshire*, has but a short course in Lancashire, as it quits the county at Guide Bridge, there entering Cheshire. It, however, serves to accommodate Ashton-under-Lyne, Staley Bridge, and Oldham. It is also the principal customer to the Stockport and Liverpool Railway, which enters Lancashire at Warrington, and runs to Liverpool close to the river-side through Widness, Hale, and Garston.

The *Midland* Company enters the county from Yorkshire at the N.E. corner, near Hornby, and thence runs down the Vale of Lune to Lancaster and Morecambe. By means of a branch from Wenning to Carnforth, it is placed in profitable relations with the *Furness Railway*, which is exceedingly interesting both in its rise and progress, its construction, and its commercial features (Rte. 44). It commences at Carnforth, and skirts the Bay of Morecambe to Ulverston and Furness Abbey, where it sends off branches to Peel and Barrow, the main line soon entering Cumberland, and running to Whitehaven. These, then, are the rlys. in Lancashire, not forgetting two little attempts at rlys.—one of which connects Blackpool and Lytham, embracing the sandbanks of that dreary district—and the other brings stone (and sometimes a passenger) from Longridge to Preston. The rlys. in Lancashire have their peculiar social features:—

The London and North-Western, for instance, is marked by its long important-looking trains of through-passengers, most of whom are evidently made up for a long journey N. or S., and look upon it as a serious matter. Preston, sometime about the afternoon, is the spot where these through-trains disgorge their tenants for feeding purposes, and a lively half-hour may be spent by the spectator, who is not in a hurry to dine, watching those who are.

The Lancashire and Yorkshire line is devoted to cotton and coals and cheap passengers. On the various (cotton) market-days the trains are filled with spinners and manufacturers, anxiously talking over the aspects of change and the fall of half a farthing in cotton. During the summer unusually long trains carry their thousands to Southport, Blackpool, Morecambe, and many other more distant places. Cheapness is the characteristic of these trains, not speed or comfort; in fact, the Lancashire and Yorkshire lines are generally too busy to care for appearances, which, perhaps, for the shareholders, is the most agreeable state of things.

The Furness rly. is characterised by the prevailing colour of deep red, owing to the constant succession of hæmatite-ore trains.

The Longridge rly. is marked by its having only two passenger carriages, which are generally more than enough for the traffic.

Canals have been almost superseded by the railways, although, in the southern portion of Lancashire, an historical era in the fortunes of England was marked by the opening of the gigantic works of the Bridgewater Canal. For many years this canal was the great highway, not only for goods, but for people; and it may fairly be said to have been one of the principal stimulants to the rise and progress of the cotton-trade. The greater portion of the Bridgewater Canal is in Cheshire, the Lancashire portion running from Manchester to Ashton, where it crosses the Mersey, and, previously to that, sending off a branch to the various collieries and underground works at Worsley, and also to the town of Leigh. The Bridgewater Canal, however, was not actually the first made in England, precedence having been taken by the *Sankey Canal*, which is carried between St. Helen's and the Mersey, at Fiddler's Ferry, and the Act for which was obtained in 1755. The *Leeds and Liverpool Canal* is a very important water-system, and enters Lancashire near Colne, where it runs past Burnley, Blackburn,

Chorley, Wigan, and Burscough. Near the latter place it is connected with the Ribble estuary by a branch to Hesketh and also with the Bridgewater Canal at Leigh. The *Lancaster Canal* joins Preston, Lancaster, and Kendal, sending off a short cut to the Glasson Docks. The *Ashton Canal* connects that town with Manchester, as also with Stockport, Oldham, Dukinfield, and the Huddersfield Canal. The *Rochdale Canal* connects Todmorden, Rochdale, Middleton, and Manchester with the Calder Navigation in Yorkshire; and in the latter city joins the Bridgewater system, as does also the *Bolton, Bury, and Manchester Canal*. Lancashire is thus put into close water-communication with the Yorkshire clothing districts, and a through-navigation is opened up between the German Ocean and the Irish Sea.

IV.—HISTORY AND ANTIQUITIES.

I.—SHROPSHIRE.

The history of Shropshire is of great interest to the antiquary on account of the abundant remains that are scattered over the county. The name of Salop appears to be of earlier derivation than that which is usually given, and perhaps may be derived from the Erse word *sa*, a stream, and *lub*, a loop—thus describing the situation of the peninsula upon which the town stands. “The customary names of the shire and county town appear to date from the beginning of the 11th centy. only, for Lappenberg mentions, on the authority of Ellis, that Scrob, a knight on the Welsh Marches, held lands under King Edward the Confessor in Hereford, Worcester, and Salop. No doubt he found it very desirable to restore and maintain the ancient fort on the hill at the stream top: very possibly he so enlarged and improved it, that it came to be called Scrobbesbyrig instead of Salopesbyrig; and it may be noticed that one pronunciation of the town’s name, Shro’sbury, closely approximates to the knight’s, and there is also a close resemblance between Scrobshire and Shropshire.”—*Athenæum*.

The Severn appears to have been the dividing line between the British tribes of the Cornavii on the W. and the Ordovices on the E., while a portion of the southern district was inhabited by the Silures; but after the subjugation of the Celtic principalities by the Roman arms, the county was included in the province of Flavia Cæsariensis. There seems to be little doubt but that the victorious forces of Ostorius Scapula penetrated into Shropshire and finally overcame within its boundaries the British king Caractacus, although the actual site of the battle is involved in some haziness. Of the Roman occupation we have most interesting traces, and particularly of the period of the decline of their tenancy in Britain. From its position as a border county Shropshire obtained from a very early date a reputation of being unsafe as a residence, on account of the exposure of its western

border to the savage tribes of the Welsh mountains. It is described by Diodorus Siculus as "ager arcifinius," a border district, and from the necessity that existed, of checking the encroachments of its wild neighbours, it became garnished with a series of forts, many of which in the Norman time were of great strength and importance. These border limits were called the *Marches*, and the Barons who held the properties were entitled *Lords Marchers*, who, says Camden, "exercised within their respective liberties a sort of Palatinate jurisdiction, and held courts of justice to determine controversies among their neighbours, and prescribed for several privileges and immunities, one of which was that the King's writs should not run here in some causes. But notwithstanding that, whatever controversies arose concerning the right of Lordship or their extent, such were only determinable in the King's courts of justice. We find these styled formerly *Marchiones de Marchia Wallie*, Marquises of the *Marches of Wales*, as appears by the 'Red Book' in the Exchequer, where we read that at the coronation of Queen Eleanor, consort to Henry III., these *Lords Marchers of Wales*, viz., John Fitz-Alane, Ralph de Mortimer, John de Monmouth, and Walter de Clifford, in behalf of the *Marches*, did claim in their right to provide silver spears and bring them to support the square canopy of purple silk at the coronation of the Kings and Queens of England."

Later on, the jurisdiction of the *Marches* assumed a much higher and more important character, it being considered as one of the rights and honours of the Princes of Wales to hold special Courts, either in their own persons or through their deputies, the *Lords President of Wales*. Ludlow became a royal residence and the centre of these Courts, which were held with great splendour until 1688, when the office of President was abolished. The 13th and 14th cents. were stirring ones for Shropshire, on account of the irruptions of the Welsh under Llewelyn and the insurgent Barons. Parliaments were held at Shrewsbury for the trial of Dafydd, the last native prince of Wales, and later on (temp. Richard II.) of Mowbray, Duke of Norfolk, who was impeached by Henry of Bolingbroke, afterwards Henry IV. Owain Glyndwr was the last who troubled the peace of the county to any serious extent; but the battle of Shrewsbury (1403) terminated fatally for his hopes and those of the Earl of Northumberland.

During the Civil Wars Shropshire generally was a staunchly royalist county, and Charles I. had many occasions to feel grateful for the contributions of men, money, and personal shelter. The various incidents which make up the interest of the history of Shropshire will be found under their respective localities.

Of *Early Works*, such as circles, tumuli, &c., there are but few, and those few, as may naturally be expected, are to be found in the sequestered and hilly districts. There are some tumuli in the parish of Woolaston (Rte. 10), and one was opened near the ch. of Clungunford (Rte. 6).

Circles are found only on Corndon Mount (Rte. 5), viz., the Marsh Pool Circle, the Whetstones, and Mitchell's Fold, all grouped together. In their arrangement and probable foundation Mr. Hartshorne sees a great resemblance to Avebury.

[*Shropshire, &c.*]

Camps and earthworks are tolerably numerous, and are placed just where we should expect to find them, guarding defiles of valleys and the passages of rivers. The figures denote the routes under which they are mentioned :—

Route

- 3. Abdon Burf, near Ludlow. Date uncertain.
- 9. Belan Bank, Alberbury. British. Guarding the passage of the Vrynwy.
- 9. Berth Hill, Baschurch. Anglo-Saxon.
- 1. Bodbury Ring, Church Stretton. British.
- 1. Brockhurst, ditto.
- 5. Bury Ditches, Clun. Supposed by Mr. Wright to be of Saxon origin.
- 12. Bury Walls, Hawkstone. British.
- 1. Caer Caradoc, Church Stretton. } Both British.
- 5. Caer Caradoc, Knighton. }
- 9. Castell Brogyntyn, Oswestry. British.
- 1. Castle Ring, Church Stretton. British.
- 3. Caynham Camp, Ludlow. Anglo-Saxon.
- 3. Clee Burf, Ludlow. Uncertain.
- 6. Ditches, Wenlock. British.
- 8. Ebury Camp, Shrewsbury. Anglo-Saxon.
- 5. Habberley Camp, Minsterley. British.
- 3. Nordy Bank, Ludlow. Roman.
- 1. Norton Camp, Craven Arms. Roman.
- 9. Old Oswestry. British.
- 4. Quatford, Bridgnorth. Anglo-Saxon.
- 5. Snead Camp, } Bishops Castle. British.
- 5. Simonds Castle, }
- 3. Titterstone Camp, Ludlow. Uncertain.
- The Walls. Anglo-Saxon.
- 10. Woolaston. Anglo-Saxon.
- 7. Wrekin earthworks, Wellington. British.

Traces of the Roman occupation are obvious, not only in the camps marked as Roman, but in the magnificent remains of Vr-Iconium (Wroxeter, Rte. 8), which are the most extensive of the kind in England. The other Salopian town of this era was Ruyton of the 11 Towns, at which antiquaries have placed the ancient Rutunium (Rte. 9); and there was another place called Uxacona or Uxiconium, about which they are not agreed, some placing it at Red Hill, some to the N.W. of Shiffnal, others at Oaken Gates. Wherever it was, it was an unimportant place. As Shropshire lay in the direct routes between Deva (Chester) on the north, Isca Silurum (Caerleon) and Venta Silurum (Caerwent) in South Wales, several Roman roads ran across the county. The Watling Street entered it from the Staffordshire side, in its course from Pennocrucium (Penkridge) to Uxacona, while another branch ran southwards from Uriconium down the Church Stretton valley on its way to Magna (Kenchester) and Bravonium (near Leintwardine). The *Portway* (Rte. 1) was a British road between Caer Caradoc and Castle

Ring, near Ratlinghope. *Offa's Dyke* was evidently a border line of Anglo-Saxon date, and is most clearly visible in the southern part of the county at Knighton, and the northern at Oswestry and Selattyn. Watt's Dyke is also observable near Oswestry.

Castles.—From its position on the Marches, Shropshire possessed a good many forts, although few of them rose to the dignity of a castle. Ludlow, however, is an exception, for in its history, extent, and grandeur, it yields to very few in England. Nearly all of the Shropshire castles are of the same date.

Route

1. Acton Burnell. 13th centy.
 9. Alberbury. Very slight traces.
 10. Caus Castle. Norman.
 5. Clun. Norman, supposed to be the "Garde Doloureux" of Sir Walter Scott.
 6. Hopton.
 1. Ludlow. Norman, with additions and alterations of Elizabethan date, and others still later.
 12. Middle Castle. Temp. Edw. III.
 10. Wattlesborough. Norman.
 9. Whittington. Norman.
- Of Shrawardine, Ellesmere, Knockin and Bishop's Castle, only the sites are left.

Ecclesiastical buildings are numerous and interesting, and especially the churches. By far the greater number are of Norman date, and present many beautiful details. The following are the monastic or conventual remains that are left, all, with the exception of Bromfield, in a state of ruin:—

Route

1. Bromfield Priory ch. Norman arcades, E. E.
4. Buildwas Abbey, 12th centy. Nave and chapter house.
8. Haughmond Abbey, 12th centy. Norman, E. E.
8. Lilleshall Abbey. Norman.
7. Malins Lee chapel. E. Norman.
8. Shrewsbury.
Monastic remains of the Abbey. Norman.
Grey Friars.
St. Nicholas chapel. Norman.
6. Wenlock. Norman, E. English.
7. White Ladies conventual ch. Norman.

The churches of Shropshire are particularly rich in architectural details and monuments, and the ecclesiologist will find much to repay him in an excursion into the out-of-the-way country districts. Church restoration has been extensively carried on, and, generally speaking, very judiciously.

Route

1. Acton Burnell. Brass.
4. Acton Round. Norm.

Route

7. Albrighton. Norm. and E. Eng., and Dec. details. Monuments.
4. Astley Abbott. Norm.
3. Aston Botterell. Altar tomb.
4. Aston Eyre. Carving on tympanum.
8. Atcham. Norm.
6. Barrow. Norm.
9. Baschurch. Norm.
8. Battlefield. 16th centy.; very fine church.
4. Berrington. Saxon (?) font. Effigy.
3. Bitterley. Norm. font. Rood-loft.
4. Bridgnorth—
 St. Mary's. Modern. Altar-piece.
 St. Leonard's. Collegiate. Oak roof.
4. Broseley. Perp.
2. Burford. E. Eng. Triptych painting. Organ screen. Monuments.
3. Burwarton. Norm. Woodwork.
4. Chelmarsh. Norm. Piscina.
7. Child's Ercall. Font.
6. Church-Preen. Stone building adjoining the church.
1. Church Stretton. Norman doorway.
4. Claverley. Trans. Norm. Heads of capitals. Font.
3. Cleobury. Norm. font.
3. Cleobury Mortimer. E. Eng. Wooden spire.
5. Clun. Norm. Lychgate.
1. Conover. Norm. Monument by *Roubilliac*.
6. Culmington. Double piscina.
7. Donington. Stained glass.
8. Edgmund. Stained glass.
11. Ellesmere. Dec. Monuments. Stained glass.
7. Eyton. Monuments. Stained glass.
12. Hadnall. Monuments.
5. Hanwood. Norm. font.
11. Hanmer. Tudor. Monuments. Stained glass.
7. Hodnet. Monuments.
4. Kinlet. Blocked arches. Monuments. Stained glass.
4. Leighton. Effigy.
4. Linley. Norm. S. doorway.
9. Llanyblodwell. Octagonal tower.
1. Ludford. Monuments.
1. Ludlow. Perp. lantern tower. Stained glass. Norm. S. doorway.
3. Mable. Chapels. Monuments. Effigies.
5. Minsterley.
4. Morville. Norm.
8. Newport. E. Eng.
9. Oswestry. Very fine church. Monuments.
7. Patshull. Stained glass. Altar tombs.
7. Pattingham. Norm., E. Eng., and Dec.

Route.

1. Pitchford. Oak figures.
5. Pontesbury. Collegiate.
4. Quatford. Norm. and 14th centy. alterations.
7. Shavington. Monuments.
12. Shawbury. Saxon (?) font.
7. Shiffnall. Trans. Norm. and Dec. Parvise to S. porch.
8. Shrewsbury—
 - Abbey Church. Norm., E. Eng., and Dec. Stained glass. Monuments.
 - Old St. Chad's. Norm.
 - New St. Chad's. Stained glass.
 - St. Giles. Norm.
 - St. Mary's. Norm., E. Eng., and Dec. E. window. Stained glass. Pulpit. Monuments.
 - St. Michael's. Stained glass.
 - St. Julian's. Monuments.
1. Staunton Lacey. Romanesque work. E. Eng., with Dec. alterations.
3. Stoddesdon. Norm. Carved doorway. Tiles.
7. Tonga. E. Perp. Monuments very rich.
4. Upton Cressett. Norm. door.
8. Upton Magna. Fine church, restored by Street.
3. Wheathill. Norm. door.
12. Whitchurch. Stained glass. Monuments. Apse.
 - 3. Worfield. Screen. Monuments.
 - 8. Wroxeter. Norm. Altar tombs.

Domestic—This class of antiquities is tolerably abundant in Salop, although there is not the same profusion of timber houses that prevails in Cheshire.

Route

8. Albright Hussey (moated).
2. Bleatherwood Court. Henry VIII.
7. Boscobel House. Timber and plaster.
4. Bridgnorth. Bishop Percy's House (restored).
1. Bromfield. Domestic buildings of Bromfield Priory.
8. Edmund Rectory. 14th centy.
1. Frodesley Hall. Elizabethan.
5. Knighton. Old Jacobean house.
1. Ludford Hall. 13th centy.
1. Ludlow. The Reader's House—17th centy. Lane Asylum—a little later. Bull Inn—panelling. Feathers Inn—timber and plaster.
12. Moreton Corbet. 17th centy.
7. Patshull Old Hall. Timber and plaster.
1. Pitchford Hall. Early part of 16th centy. Timber and plaster.
6. Plash. Tudor style.

Route

8. Shrewsbury. Council House; Ireland's Mansion; Bernard's Hall; Butcher's Row; Lloyd's House; Jones' Mansion; Drapers' Hall; Vaughan's Place; Rowley's Mansion; Whitehall; Bell Stone; Market House; Drapers' Almshouses.
1. Stokesay. 13th centy. Castellated domestic.
6. Wenlock. Prior's residence. Old houses. Townhall.

Modern.—Few counties possess such wealthy territorial properties as Salop, many of their owners having inhabited their ancestral acres for a great number of generations. Amongst the most important seats in the county are the following :—

Route

1. Acton Burnell, Shrewsbury.
12. Acton Reynald, Shrewsbury.
4. Apley Park, near Bridgnorth.
7. Apley Castle, near Wellington.
8. Aqualate, Newport.
8. Attingham Park, Shrewsbury.
4. Badger Hall, Bridgnorth.
11. Bettisfield, Ellesmere.
3. Caynham Court, Ludlow.
8. Chetwynd Park, Newport.
1. Condober Park, Shrewsbury.
4. Davenport, Bridgnorth.
1. Downton Castle, Ludlow.
4. Gatacre Park, Bridgnorth.
11. Gredington, Ellesmere.
11. Halston, Oswestry.
11. Hardwick Hall, Ellesmere.
4. Kinlet Hall, Cleobury Mortimer.
8. Lilleshall Hall, Newport.
10. Loton Park, Shrewsbury.
8. Longner Hall, Shrewsbury.
6. Lutwych Hall, Wenlock.
3. Mawley Hall, Cleobury.
1. Oakley Park, Ludlow.
7. Patshull, Shiffnall.
9. Porkington, Oswestry.
7. Shavington, Market Drayton.
4. Stanley, Bridgnorth.
7. Tonge, Shiffnall.
7. Weston Park, Shiffnall.
4. Willey Park, Wenlock.
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II.—CHESHIRE.

The early history of Cheshire appears with great probability to be bound up with its physico-geological features, seeing that the accounts of the earliest geographers agree very much with what, our geological knowledge tells us, must have been the case. In fact, since the time of man, and even as late as the occupation of the Romans, the north-west portion of the county has evidently undergone great changes.

Ptolemy mentions that there were only two rivers between the mouth of the Dee (*Seteia Portus*) and the Ken (*Moricamb*), which of course would exclude the third one altogether, viz., the mouth of the Mersey. This, therefore, would seem to imply that the mouths of the Dee and Mersey were identical, and a careful consideration of the aspect of the district of Wirral appears to confirm this view. "It is generally acknowledged that at some distant period, the tides have risen considerably higher on the western coast than at present, and this is borne out by the appearance of the banks of all the Lancashire as well as the Cheshire rivers, even without acceding to the common opinion, that the Ribble was once accessible for ships as high as the Roman station of Ribchester. With reference to this, several channels have been pointed out in the account of Wirral, by which the waters of the Mersey and Dee would have been made to communicate between that hundred and Broxton through a valley yet marked with shells and sea-sand, by a tide only a few feet higher than usual, and the same stream would also be led through other valleys between West Kirkby and Wallasey and the rest of Wirral."—*Ormerod*.

From the mouth to the head of the little river Gowry there is a valley a very few feet above high water, through which communication could easily be made through Bachford to Mollington. It is quite plain, indeed, that the tide once flowed that way; and when, added to that, we have the names of Ince (*Ynys* = island) and the claims of the Abbot of St. Werburgh, in the reign of Edward III., to seawrack 3 miles up the valley, it is more than probable that the high ground of Kirkby was an island, and that the Dee and Mersey had the same mouth.

In early British times the *Cornavii* were the inhabitants of Cheshire, but at the period of the Roman occupation it was included, like Shropshire, in the province of *Flavia Cæsariensis*. The Romans continued their holding of the county for between 200 and 300 years. *Deva* (Chester, Rte. 23) seems to have been occupied under *Agricola*, and to have been so held until the reigns of *Diocletian* and *Maximilian* (A.D. 304). Various traces, in the shape of walls, coins, inscriptions, hypocausts, combine to make Chester one of the most interesting Roman cities in England; and, although little or nothing is left of the roads that led to it, we have sufficient knowledge of their direction to make them out pretty distinctly, and in this we are helped by the names of the villages on their route. An important road led from *Deva* to *Uriconium* (*Wroxeter*), which, according to the *Antonine Itinerary*, passed through *Bovium* (placed by antiquaries at *Bangor Iscoed*), just within the borders of *Flintshire* and on the banks of the *Dee*, which, it

must be borne in mind, had probably a somewhat different course to what it has now.

From *Deva* a road ran north-east to the station of *Veratinum*, now Wilderspool, near Warrington (Rte. 26), and continued thence to *Mancunium* (Manchester), quitting Cheshire where it crossed the *Dee* at the small station marked *Ad Fines et Flaviae*. From *Veratinum*, a road, *Yr Iknield Street*, ran southward to the station of *Condate*, identified by antiquaries as Kinderton, near Middlewich, and was most probably connected with *Pennocrucium* (Penkridge) in Staffordshire, and ultimately with *Etocetum* (Wall, near Lichfield). A cross road, marked as the *Watling Street*, joined *Deva* with the *Condate* and *Veratinum* road at Northwich, passing through *Tarvin* and *Delamere Forest*. The names of *Stamford Bridge*, *Stretton*, *Walton*, &c., are sufficiently corroborative of the position of this road. *Chester*, according to Mr. Earle, is the Saxon *Ceaster*, derived from *Castrum*. "The true old Roman name had been *Diva* (*Antoninus*) and *Colonia Divana* (on a coin of *Septimus Geta*), and it was while these names were buried in forgetfulness, after the Roman evacuation and during the presumed desertion of *Diva*, that the modern name took its rise.

After the Saxon conquest, Cheshire was governed by the Mercian "caldormen" under the West Saxon kings, until the invasion of the Danes, the traces of whose occupation may be found in the occasional names of places ending in "by." Subsequently the Saxon rule was restored, and it continued under *Earl Leofric* until the Norman conquest. Soon after this event, *King William* gave the county and earldom of *Chester* to *Hugh Lupus*, a famous warrior, though somewhat corpulent, according to *Ordericus Vitalis*, "being given much to his belly, whereby in time he grew so fat that he could scarce crawl." The importance and extent of his possessions may be imagined by their embracing not only Cheshire proper, but the lands between the *Mersey* and the *Ribble*, *Lancashire* not appearing at all as a territorial division in *Domesday Book*.

The line of *Hugh Lupus* expired in 1232, and soon afterwards *Henry III.* annexed the earldom to his crown, in the possession of which it remained ever afterwards, with one or two exceptions. "By an Act passed in *Richard II.*'s reign, the earldom was made into a principality, and was limited strictly for the future to the eldest son of the reigning king, and though the Act was annulled by one of the first year of *Henry IV.*, the earldom of *Chester* has ever since been granted in conjunction with the *Principality of Wales*. The county continued to be governed by its earls as fully and independently as it had been under the Norman earls, till *Henry VIII.*, by Act of Parliament, made it subordinate to the crown of *England*" (*Prov. Hist. of England*). In the *Civil Wars*, Cheshire suffered as much, if not more, than almost any county; *Nantwich*, *Chester*, *Middlewich*, *Stockport*, underwent sieges, together with a great number of private houses, whose owners suffered very considerably both in property and money; while the battles of *Tarvin*, *Rowton*, *Hoole Heath*, *Malpas*, and *Northwich*, sufficiently betoken the severity of the struggle.

Cheshire was always noted, as indeed it is now, for the number of its

aristocracy and wealthy proprietors. For generations we find the same time-honoured names from the days of the Plantagenets down to the Stuarts and to the present time. Of course many historical names have disappeared altogether, while others have dropped from their high estate, and have only the melancholy satisfaction of pointing to where their ancestors held sway. But what the troublous times of the middle ages and the hard blows of the Civil Wars could not do, the changes of the 19th centy. are doing. Manufactures and commerce are gradually pushing aside the old noblesse, while *nouveaux riches* are taking their place, and to a certain extent it may be said that Cheshire is becoming a suburb of Manchester and Liverpool.

The County Palatine of Cheshire affords ample interest to the antiquary, and particularly in the matter of churches and old houses. The Roman stations and roads have already been alluded to, and will be found detailed under their respective routes. Camps and earthworks are extremely few in number, and are limited to the hilly districts, which will probably account for their scarcity. There are two or three to be found in the chain of hills that extend from Helsby to Frodsham (Rte. 24)—a British fortification named Bucton Castle, in the hilly country north of Staley Bridge (Rte. 28)—and Kelsborough Castle, of British origin, a little to the south of Delamere Forest. There are some tumuli in the same neighbourhood, but taken in connexion with the Saxon fortress of Eddisbury (Rte. 20), it is most probable that these are also of Saxon date—the word “Low,” or tumulus, being derived from the Anglo-Saxon “*llean*,” that which covers. The Roosdych, near Whaley Bridge (Rte. 15), with Melandra and Moulow Castles (Rte. 18) are just within the Derbyshire borders, so that they cannot be included in Cheshire antiquities.

Of existing castle ruins there are still less, than of camps. Beeston (Rte. 22) and Halton (Rte. 24), both of Norman date and origin, are the only ones left. Of the castles of Northwich, Stockport, Frodsham and Dodleston, only the sites remain. Rock Savage (Rte. 24) was dignified with the name of a castle, but it really was an Elizabethan castellated mansion.

Of ecclesiastical remains of importance, it may be said, that, with the exception of the splendid old Perp. Cathedral of St. Werburgh at Chester, there are none.

The traces of the Priory of Birkenhead (Rte. 25), dating from the 12th centy., are unfortunately small, while of Fulford (Rte. 23) and Stanlaw (Rte. 24), Abbeys, the site only remains. There are some traces of monastic occupation at Ince (Rte. 24) and at Vale Royal (Rte. 17), now one of the finest of Cheshire residences.

Many of the churches of Cheshire are very fine, and abound in beautiful details. The following are the best worth visiting:—

Route

24. Alvanley.

20. Arley Chapel. Modern Dec.

14. Astbury. Perp. Very fine west front, and general appearance
Monuments in church and churchyard.

20. Bowdon. Late Perp. Windows. Chapels. Monuments.

Routes

21. Brereton. 17th centy. Monuments.
 20. Budworth. Stalls. Monuments.
 22. Bunbury. Dec. and Perp. Chapels. Monuments.
 16. Chadkirk.
 19. Cheadle. Monuments.
 23. Chester.
 St. John's. Splendid example of Early Norm. Double row of triforium arches.
 St. Mary's. 12th centy. Monuments.
 Trinity Church. Monuments.
 14. Congleton.
 St. James'. Modern.
 24. Daresbury Chapel. Rood-loft.
 15. Disley. 15th centy. Illuminated roof.
 19. Dunham-Massey. Modern.
 19. East Hall Chapel. 1581.
 23. Eccleston. Modern.
 24. Frodsham. Stalls. Monuments.
 14. Gawsworth. Mural paintings.
 19. Grappenhall. 16th centy.
 23. Handley. Brass.
 13. Holmes Chapel. Shrine work.
 16. Hyde. Perp. Stained glass.
 24. Ince.
 20. Knutsford. Old church ruins, temp. Henry VIII.
 19. Lymm. Dec.
 14. Macclesfield.
 St. Michael's. 13th centy. Monuments.
 Rivers Chapel (Edwardian). Monuments. Oriel window.
 Christ Church. Modern.
 23. Malpas. Dec. and Perp. Monuments.
 21. Middlewich. Monuments.
 20. Mobberley. Piscina. Sedilia. Brasses. Monuments.
 18. Mottram. Perp. Monuments.
 13. Nantwich.
 25. Neston. Fine tower and general appearance.
 20. Over Peover. 16th centy. Monuments.
 24. Plemstall. Henry VIII. Monuments.
 14. Prestbury. Various styles.
 20. Rostherne. 16th centy. Monuments.
 24. Runcorn. Stained glass.
 13. Sandbach. 17th centy. Chapels. Oak roof. Font. In the town are two crosses of pure Saxon date.
 25. Shotwick. Monuments.
 14. Shrigley. Perp.
 13. Stockport. Dec. Piscina. Stalls. Monuments.
 22. Tarporley. Monuments.

Route

- 20. Tarvin. Bruen Chapel. Brass.
- 15. Taxal. Monuments.
- 24. Thornton. Piscina. Monuments.
- 20. Toft. Modern.
- 19. Warburton. 14th centy. Ancient timber.
- 17. Weaverham. Date of James I.
- 13. Wilmslow. 14th century.

With the exception of Lancashire, Cheshire is, perhaps, the richest county in England in old houses, and particularly of that quaint and old-fashioned style of timber and plaster. It is a fact worth mentioning, that the prevalence of this style somewhat depends on the geological formation; for timber houses are always more abundant in flat districts, where quarries are absent, than in hilly ones. Cheshire, being principally on the New Red Sandstone, in which quarries are few and far between, is, therefore, abundant in this class of antiquities.

Route

- 14. Adlington Hall. Elizabethan.
- 20. Arley Hall. Elizabethan.
- 20. Ashley Hall. Farmhouse.
- 19. Baguley Hall. Farmhouse. Timber and plaster. Edward II.
- 13. Blackden Hall. Timber. Gabled.
- 14. Bramhall. Timber and plaster. Edward III.
- 21. Brereton Hall. 16th centy.
- 23. Broxton Hall. Farmhouse.
- 23. Calverley Hall. Farmhouse.
- 23. Carden. Timbered. Henry III.
- 23. Chester. Bishop Lloyd's residence. God's Providence House. Stanley Palace. The Rows. Falcon, and other old houses.
- 14. Congleton. Timber houses.
- 21. Cotton Hall. Timber and plaster.
- 14. Crossley. Farmhouse.
- 17. Crowton Hall. Farmhouse. Timber and plaster.
- 21. Davenport Hall.
- 13. Dorfold Hall. Elizabethan.
- 16. Dukinfield Hall. Timber and plaster. Edward II.
- 20. Do. Farmhouse.
- 19. Dunham-Massey.
- 17. Dutton Hall. 16th centy.
- 24. Elton Hall. Farmhouse. 17th centy.
- 17. Erdeswick Hall.
- 20. Fir Tree Farm.
- 16. Harden Hall. Elizabethan.
- 22. Hatton Hall.
- 20. Holford Hall. Farmhouse. Timber and plaster.
- 22. Huxley Hall. Edward I.
- 16. Hyde Hall. Elizabethan.
- 24. Ince. Manor House.

Route

21. Kinderton Hall. Farmhouse. Timber and plaster. 17th centy.
 23. Kinnerton Hall. Edward III.
 23. Lache Hall. 17th centy.
 25. Leasowe Castle. Elizabethan.
 15. Lyme Park. Henry VII.
 19. Lymm Hall.
 14. Macclesfield. Bate Hall.
 16. Marple Hall. Elizabethan.
 14. Moreton Hall (Great). Timber and plaster. 17th centy.
 14. Moreton Hall (Little). Timber and plaster.
 24. Netherton.
 15. Offerton Hall. Farmhouse.
 20. Over Peover Hall. Elizabethan.
 14. Poynton Hall. 17th centy.
 21. Ravenscroft Hall. 17th centy.
 20. Riddings. Farmhouse. Timber and plaster.
 22. Saighton Grange. Gate tower.
 13. Sandbach Old Hall. (The Inn). 17th centy.
 14. Saltersford Hall. Farmhouse.
 21. Smethwick Hall. Farmhouse.
 21. Somerford Booths. 17th centy.
 13. Stockport. Old House in Underbank. Timber and plaster.
 20. Tabley Old Hall. 17th centy.
 24. Thornton Hall.
 18. Tintwistle Hall.
 20. Toft Hall.
 13. Twemlow Hall. Moated.
 22. Wardle Hall. Farmhouse. Timber and plaster.
 22. Wetenhall. Gabled. Timber and plaster.
 19. Wythenshawe Hall. Edward III.

Amongst the old family seats and estates of Cheshire the finest are—

Route

13. Alderley Park.
 13. Capesthorpe.
 23. Cholmondeley Castle.
 13. Crewe Hall.
 13. Combermere Abbey.
 23. Eaton Hall.
 18. Glossop Hall.
 15. Lyme Park.
 20. Marbury Hall.
 24. Norton Priory.
 22. Oulton Park.
 22. Peckforton Castle.
 20. Tabley.
 20. Tatton Park.
 17. Vale Royal.

III.—LANCASHIRE.

The earliest history of Lancashire, beyond that it was the district inhabited by the Brigantes, is of the most meagre description. Even old Camden found the survey of the county too much for him, and prefaced his description of it, by saying that "after I had surveyed the far greater part of it, I found but very few things as I had wished them; the ancient ruins seemed so much obscured by antiquity." The Brigantes, after struggling for a considerable time against the Roman power, in the time of Caractacus, were at length followed into their fastnesses and compelled to yield to Agricola—at which time this part of the county became a portion of the province *Maxima Cæsariensis*.

It is very singular that, notwithstanding the undoubted importance of the Roman occupation, as evinced by the remains found from time to time, antiquaries should be so much in the dark as to the position of the various stations, the only one which is accurately defined, being that of *Mancunium*, the present Manchester. "Lancashire long continued to assert its Romano-British character against the Saxon invaders, as part of Strathclyde, and its extreme north-western portions afterwards remained attached to the independent British state of Cumberland, when the rest was divided between the Saxon states of the Mercian Confederacy (the district south of the Ribble), and the Northumbrian principality of *Deira*. Twenty-six of the *Marks* or original settlements of the Anglo-Saxons have been traced in the names of places in Lancashire. The county, of course, shared the general fate of the Saxon kingdoms between which it was partitioned during the Northman invasions, and became for some time Scandinavian in its government."

Domesday does not mention Lancashire at all, the district of what is now South Lancashire, belonging to Cheshire under the title "*Inter Ripam et Meraha*,"—between the Ribble and Mersey—while the northern hundreds were included in Yorkshire. The first great landholder after the Roman conquest was Roger de Poitou, third son of Roger Montgomery, who held most of the property between the Ribble and Mersey. He, however, was banished in the reign of Henry I., when the "honor" of Lancaster was alienated from his possessions and came to the Crown. Henry III. deprived Robert de Ferrars of the "honor" as well as of the lands south of the Ribble, on account of his participation in the rebellion of Simon de Montfort, and, uniting them into one, gave them to his son Edmond Crouchback, Earl of Lancaster. His successors were created Dukes of Lancaster, a title held by John of Gaunt in 1362. But on the accession of his son Henry Bolingbroke to the throne, the Duchy Palatine became attached to the Crown, where it has ever since remained. At the same date at which this arrangement was made, certain courts were established which have held more or less jurisdiction down to the present time—such as the "Duchy Court, in which all questions of revenue and council affecting the Duchy possessions, might be decided. This Court is now held in the Duchy Office in Westminster. This is also a Court of

Appeal from the Chancery of the County Palatine of Lancaster, which is a Court of Equity for matters of equity arising within the county, and is held (by the Vice Chancellor) at Preston. In the Duchy Court the King is presumed to be not only present, but personally acting through his Chancellor and inferior officers."

The middle ages were productive of a good deal of disquiet to Lancashire, principally at the hands of the Scots, who, under Robert Bruce, ravaged the northern portions of it as far as Preston. The Furness district, too, was in the reign of Henry VII. the scene of the great gathering under the Earl of Lincoln and Lord Lovel, who combined with the Abbots of Furness, and Sir Thomas Broughton to raise a rebellion in favour of the so-called Earl of Warwick, Lambert Simnel.

The Reformation was the period, at which the hearts of Lancashire men were most stirred up, and which caused an ebullition that happened in no other part of England. The old families of the county were (as many are still) staunch Catholics, while most of the clergy were Protestants only in name, according to the Act of Supremacy. "But in the south-east of Lancashire the Reformation speedily obtained great strength, and from its commencement assumed a Puritanical form and character. The busy traders and manufacturers of Salfordshire, having formed mercantile connections in Holland and Germany, became acquainted with the great changes which had been so wonderfully wrought in the religion of those countries. Better educated than their rustic neighbours, and having more money to spare and more opportunity to spend it, they purchased books, conversed with foreigners, occasionally travelled to continental fairs, knew more than their priests, prided themselves on a standing independence of thought, and became, many of them, firm and zealous adherents of the Reformation."—*Halley*. When the storm burst, Lancashire soon ranged itself into respective sides, and for many years the county was the scene of much bloodshed and internal division. There was scarcely a town or village, but was the scene of some skirmish or siege during the Civil Wars, in which Bolton, Manchester, Liverpool, Preston, and Lancaster, played the most conspicuous parts. In several ways the results of that great contest impressed indelible marks on the nature of the inhabitants, and even to this day, the county contains a very large section of Roman Catholic families, while, on the other hand, the bulk of the population is characterised by a decidedly Evangelical tendency.

The *Roman* remains in Lancashire have been at various times numerous and interesting. The towns which existed at that era were—

Mancunium or Mamucium, identified with Manchester. Coccium, supposed to be identical with Ribchester, though others, on the authority of Richard de Cirencester, have placed it at Rivington, near Blackrod.

The locality of Bremetonacis is considered to have been at Over Burrow, which is on the extreme northern border of the county, near Kirkby Lonsdale. Others, however, place it at Lancaster. Colunio is supposed to be represented by Colne.

The remains at Mancunium (Rte. 27) have been exceedingly well defined, and leave no doubt as to its position. Ribchester (Rte. 32), too,

whether Coccium or not, has yielded enough to show that it was an important Roman station.

Over Burrow (Rte. 43) is clearly a Roman station, but it is not improbable that it might have been nothing more than a *castrum æstivum*, and that the more important town of *Bremetonacis* lay at Lancaster (Rte. 42), where a great many remains have been found.

The Roman roads are with difficulty traced, except by their names. *Mancunium* was a great centre, from which ran roads to *Condate* (Kinderton in Cheshire), *Veratinum* (Wilderspool, opposite Warrington), *Melandra Castle* (near Glossop), *Aquis of Ravenna* (Buxton), and *Coccium* (Ribechester).

Of *Camps* and earthworks there are very few in Lancashire, which, considering the nature of the county, especially in its northern part, is a singular fact. The only remains of Roman camps are at Over Burrow (Rte. 43), and Mellor (Rte. 32), near Blackburn, which evidently lay on the road between *Mancunium* and *Coccium*. The *Dikes* (Rte. 31), near Bacup, is a fine work, most probably of Anglo-Saxon date. There are also slight vestiges of an intrenchment at Cuedley (Rte. 38), near Widness.

Mediæval buildings.—There are very few castles in Lancashire, and still fewer of any size or extent, the greater part consisting of little more than a single tower. Of Rochdale only the castle mound exists.

Route

- 44. Arnside Tower.
- 32. Clitheroe Castle. Modernised.
- 44. Gleaston. 14th century.
- 42. Greenhaigh. Henry VII.
- 44. Heslop Tower.
- 42. Lancaster. Time of Edward III., modernised and incorporated with the Gaol.
- 44. Peel of Fouldrey. Edward III.
- 30. Radclyffe Tower. Henry IV.

Ecclesiastical remains.—Lancashire is rich in these, especially in the matter of churches, many of which are of considerable size and beauty. Time and fanaticism have played great havoc with the religious houses, of some of which only the site is left—such as Hornby Priory. Only a few pillars are standing of Burscough Priory (Rte. 40), founded in the reign of Richard I.; of Windleshaw Abbey (Rte. 38), which indeed was only an abbey by courtesy, being in reality little more than a chapel; or of Upholland Priory (Rte. 36), founded in the reign of John. Cockersand Abbey (Rte. 42) has its chapterhouse left. Whalley Abbey (Rte. 32) is in a terribly fragmentary condition, although enough has been rescued from oblivion to show its extent, and to give us an idea of its magnificence. The beautiful E. E. ruins of Furness Abbey (Rte. 44) make amends for much deficiency, for in splendour and extent they rank amongst the most celebrated abbey remains in England.

The following are the churches most deserving of a visit :—

Route

44. Aldingham. Norman. Windows. Doorway.
 33. Altham Church. Stained glass. Font.
 28. Ashton-under-Lyne. 15th century stained glass. Monuments.
 40. Aughton. 16th century. Monuments.
 31. Bacup. Baptistry.
 44. Bardsea. Modern. Stained glass.
 41. Bispham. Chalice.
 32. Blackburn. Modern. Windows. Old detached Tower, Henry VIII.
 Trinity Church. Ceiling.
 St. Peter's. Altarpiece.
 32. Bolton. Modern.
 45. Bowness. Stained glass.
 42. Broughton.
 33. Burnley. Edward III. Towneley Monuments.
 30. Bury. Screen.
 44. Cartmel Priory Church. Splendid old church of mixed styles from
 Transition Norm. to late Perp. Oak seats. Monuments.
 44. Chapel Island Oratory. Norman.
 37. Childwall. Brasses. Curious paintings.
 41. Chipping. Font.
 35. Chorley. Oak carving. Stained glass.
 43. Claughton Church. Old bell. 13th century.
 32. Clitheroe. Monuments. Stained glass.
 33. Colne. 16th century. Screen. Latin inscription.
 44. Dalton. Norman. Font.
 34. Eccles. Very fine church. 14th century. Chapels. Monuments.
 40. Eccleston. Stained glass. Effigy. Old pews.
 38. Farnworth. Monuments.
 37. Flixton. Norman. Monuments.
 42. Garstang. Windows. Stalls. Screen. Lady Chapel. Monuments.
 43. Gressingham. Norman.
 43. Halton. Early cross.
 30. Haslingden. 11th century. Font. Window.
 46. Hawkshead. E. Norman.
 43. Heysham. Very interesting little church. Brass. Norman oratory.
 40. Hoole. Brass. Window.
 43. Hornby. Octagonal tower. Norman.
 37. Huyton. Norman. Screen. Hammerbeam roof. Brass.
 36. Kirkby. Norman. Font.
 41. Kirkby Ireleth. Perp. Doorway.
 41. Kirkham. Monuments.
 42. Lancaster. Stained glass. Norman. Wood carvings.
 34. Leigh. Tudor.
 26. Leyland. Singular aisles. Stained glass. Blackletter books. Piscina.
 39. Liverpool—
 St. Nicholas.

- Route
39. Liverpool—
 St. Peter's. Altar-piece.
 St. George's. Stained glass.
 Chapel of Blind School. Paintings.
 West Derby Church. Fine building, by *Scott*.
40. Lydiate. Henry VIII.
41. Lytham. Modern stained glass.
40. Maghull. Screen. Pulpit. Stalls. Monuments.
27. Manchester—
 Cathedral. Perp. General effect. Monuments.
 St. John's. Paintings. Stained glass.
 St. Peter's. Altar-piece, and medallions.
43. Melling. Perp. Stained glass. Monuments. Hagioscope.
29. Middleton. 16th century. Stained glass. Chapels. Monuments.
32. Mitton. Screen. Monuments. Sherborne Chapel.
46. Newfield.
39. North Meols. Mon. by *Nollekens*.
40. Ormskirk. Perp. Singular duplicate tower. Chapel. Monuments.
42. Overton. Norman. Doorway.
32. Padiham. Font. Handsome modern appearance.
41. Penwortham. Monuments.
41. Poulton. 17th century. Monuments.
37. Prescott Church. Fine general appearance. Monuments.
32. Prestolee. Modern. Stained glass.
41. Preston. Dec. Stained glass.
43. Quernmore. Dec. Stained glass.
30. Radcliffe. Norman. S. transept 15th century. Stained glass.
32. Ribchester. Screen. Monuments. Pulpit. E. window.
29. Rochdale. Debased Dec. Monuments. Stained glass.
40. Rufford. Monuments. Font.
40. Sephton. Monuments.
42. St. Michael-on-Wyre. Chapels.
38. Skelmersdale. Monuments.
26. Standish. 16th century. Monuments.
32. Stidd. Norman arch. Font.
43. Tunstall. Monuments.
34. Tyldesley. Modern E. E.
44. Ulverston. Very fine church. Partly of 12th century and partly of time of Henry VIII. Monuments. Painting.
36. Upholland. Fine old church. Brasses. Windows.
44. Urswick. Monuments. Windows. Brasses. Piscina. Key.
40. Walton, Liverpool. Font. Monuments.
41. Walton, Preston. Monuments. Stained glass.
26. Warrington. General appearance. Monuments. Stained glass. Crypt.
42. Warton. 14th century. Sedilia. Font.
32. Whalley. Dec. and Perp. Stalls. Carving. Stained glass. Monuments.

Route

26. Wigan. Fine general appearance. Monuments. Gerard Chapel. E. window.
 26. Winwick. Perp. Carving. Monuments. Brasses.
 34. Worsley. Modern.

Of *old mansions and houses*—principally of timber and plaster—Lancashire possesses a great choice and variety; and, generally speaking, they are in better preservation than those of Cheshire, in which county by far the larger portion are occupied as farmhouses.

Route

26. Abram Hall. Henry VI.
 33. Accrington Grange.
 35. Adlington Hall.
 30. Agecroft Hall. Elizabethan. Timber and plaster. A splendid example.
 32. Alley, Clitheroe.
 33. Altham Hall. Farmhouse.
 38. Ashurst Hall. Gateway. Farmhouse.
 28. Ashton Old Hall.
 35. Astley Hall. Elizabethan.
 26. Bamfurlong Hall. Moated. Farmhouse.
 40. Bank Hall. Elizabethan.
 29. Barcroft. 17th century.
 33. Barnside.
 32. Bashall. 17th century.
 28. Bestal. Ashton-under-Lyne.
 37. Barton Old Hall. Farmhouse.
 26. Bewsey Hall. Elizabethan. Farmhouse.
 44. Bigland Hall. Farmhouse.
 37. Bold Hall. James I.
 44. Bolton Chapel. Henry III. Farmhouse.
 42. Bowers. Farmhouse. "Priesthole."
 43. Borwick Hall. Charles I.
 26. Bradley Hall. Farmhouse.
 36. Bradshaw Hall. 17th century.
 30. Brandlesholme Hall. Richard II.
 42. Broughton Tower. Farmhouse.
 46. Broughton Tower.
 32. Browholme. 17th century.
 26. Bryn Hall. Moat only.
 28. Buckley Hall. 1618.
 42. Capernwray Hall. Farmhouse.
 44. Cark Hall. 16th century.
 29. Castleton Hall. 17th century.
 29. Chadderton Hall. Charles II.
 29. Chadwick Hall. Edward III.
 34. Chanters. Atherton.

Route

- 27. Chetham Hospital. 17th century.
- 27. Chorlton Hall.
- 28. Cinderland Hall.
- 43. Claughton Old Hall. Henry VIII.
- 28. Clayton Hall. 17th century.
- 29. Clegg Hall. 17th century.
- 41. Clifton Hall.
- 46. Coniston Hall. 15th century. Farmhouse.
- 30. Cot House. 17th century.
- 41. Cottam. Elizabethan.
- 40. Cuerdale Hall. 1710. Farmhouse.
- 37. Culceth Hall. Henry II.
- 33. Dane's House.
- 32. Darley Hall. Charles I.
- 36. Darcy Lever Hall. Timber and plaster.
- 37. Davyhulme Hall. Henry II.
- 35. Duxbury Hall.
- 33. Emmott Hall.
- 32. Entwistle Hall. Farmhouse. 15th century.
- 33. Extwistle Hall. 16th century.
- 33. Fulfilledge. Farmhouse.
- 32. Gawthorpe Hall. Elizabethan.
- 42. Goosnargh Hospital.
- 40. Gradwells. Farmhouse.
- 45. Graythwaite Hall. Elizabethan.
- 37. Great Woollen Hall. Farmhouse.
- 26. Haigh Hall.
- 38. Hale Hall. 17th century.
- 32. Hall-i'-th'-Wood. 17th century.
- 29. Hamer Hall.
- 46. Hawkshead Hall.
- 46. Hawkshead Town Hall.
- 29. Healey Hall. 1783.
- 41. Heaketh End. Farmhouse.
- 33. Heysandforth. Edward II. Farmhouse.
- 29. Heywood Hall.
- 33. Hoghton Tower. Elizabethan.
- 32. Higham Court House.
- 33. High Riley. Henry VIII. Farmhouse.
- 30. Holden Hall. 13th century.
- 33. Hollins.
- 29. Holme. 15th century.
- 26. Holt's Hall. Gabled. Timber and plaster.
- 34. Hope Car. Moat.
- 29. Hopwood Hall.
- 43. Hornby Castle. Henry VIII.
- 32. Horrocksford Hall. 17th century. Farmhouse.
- 32. Huntroyde. Inigo Jones.

Route

- 29. Hurst Wood.
- 26. Ince Hall. Elizabethan.
- 37. Irlam Hall. Elizabethan.
- 34. Kempnall Hall. Timber and plaster. 16th century.
- 34. Kenyon Peel Hall. Timber and plaster. 17th century.
- 30. Kersal Cell.
- 46. Kirkby Hall. Tudor.
- 33. Knuzden Hall.
- 33. Langroyd Hall.
- 41. Lea Hall. 14th century.
- 28. Leyland Hall. Elizabethan. Farmhouse.
- 32. Little Bolton Hall. 1600.
- 35. Lostock Hall. Timber and plaster.
- 32. Lovely Hall. Old furniture. Cross.
- 40. Lydiate Hall. Old furniture and panelling.
- 41. Mains Hall. Elizabethan.
- 26. Manor House, Wigan.
- 40. Maudesley Hall. 17th century. Farmhouse.
- 26. Meadows, Wigan. Elizabethan.
- 32. Mearley Hall. 17th century.
- 42. Michael's Hall. Farmhouse.
- 29. Middleton Rectory.
- 32. Mitton Hall. Baronial hall.
- 34. Monk's Hall. Timber and plaster.
- 34. Morleys Hall. 16th century.
- 42. Myerscough Hall. James I.
- 42. Nateby Hall. Farmhouse.
- 26. Newton Old Hall. Timber and plaster. Farmhouse.
- 39. North Meols Hall. Farmhouse.
- 30. Nuttall Hall. Richard II.
- 29. Oaken Rod Hall.
- 29. Ormerod. 16th century.
- 36. Orrel Hall. Elizabethan.
- 32. Osbaldestone Hall. Moated.
- 42. Out Rawcliffe Hall. 7th century.
- 30. Pendleton Hall. Farmhouse.
- 32. Pendle Hall.
- 29. Pike House. Elizabethan.
- 34. Platt Fold. 17th century.
- 33. Pleasington Old Hall. Elizabethan.
- 41. Redscar Hall. Elizabethan.
- 30. Redvales. 17th century.
- 41. Rossall Hall. Now a school.
- 32. Rough Lea.
- 33. Rowley Hall. 16th century.
- 33. Royle. 17th century.
- 28. Royton Hall.
- 40. Rufford Old Hall. Elizabethan. Timber and plaster.

Route

- 32. Sabden Hall. Farmhouse.
- 32. Salesbury Hall. Elizabethan.
- 32. Samlesbury Hall. Timber and plaster.
- 37. Shaw Hall. James I.
- 33. Shuttleworth Hall. James I.
- 32. Smithills Hall. Henry VIII.
- 29. Spencer's House.
- 39. Speke Hall. 16th century. Timber and plaster.
- 30. Stand.
- 29. Stanfield Hall. Henry VII.
- 29. Steanor. Old inscribed house.
- 44. Swartmoor Hall. 17th century.
- 32. Symondstone Hall.
- 43. Thurland Castle. 16th century. Moated.
- 29. Todmorden Hall. 16th century.
- 29. Towneley. 16th century.
- 41. Tulketh Hall.
- 32. Turton Tower.
- 37. Urmston Hall. Elizabethan. Timber and plaster. Farmhouse.
- 44. Urswick Hall. Farmhouse.
- 34. Wardley Hall. Edward IV. Timber and plaster.
- 42. Warton Rectory. Henry VIII.
- 32. White Legh. 13th century. Farmhouse.
- 26. Wigan Hall.
- 29. Wolstenholme Hall. Farmhouse.
- 28. Woodhouses. Timber and plaster.
- 34. Worsley Hall. Timber and plaster.
- 44. Wraysholme Tower. Farmhouse.
- 40. Wrightington Old Hall. Elizabethan. Timber.
- 33. Wycoller Hall.
- 34. Yates Peel Hall. 18th century.

The finest seats are to be found as follows, though several of the most interesting in the county are already included in the last list, on account of their antiquity, such as Bold, Gawthorpe, Haigh, Hornby, Ormerod, and Towneley:—

Route

- 42. Ashton Hall.
- 44. Conishead Priory.
- 37. Croxteth Park.
- 33. Cuerden Park.
- 33. Fennisowles.
- 30. Heaton Park.
- 44. Holker Hall.
- 44. Hulton Park.
- 32. Huntroyde.
- 39. Ince Blundell.
- 37. Knowsley Park.

Route

- 40. Lathom.
- 43. Quernmore Park.
- 40. Rufford Hall.
- 40. Scarisbrick Hall.
- 35. Shawe Hill.
- 45. Storrs Hall.
- 42. Thurnham.
- 34. Trafford Park.
- 34. Worsley Hall.
- 46. Wrae Castle.

V.—PLACES OF INTEREST.

I.—SHROPSHIRE.

Ludlow. Castle. View from the Keep. Church. Reader's House. Hosiers' Almshouse. Lane Asylum. Grammar School. Museum. Broad Street Gate. Feathers Hotel. Ludford House and Church. Scenery at Whitecliff and Mary Knoll. Aston Church. Wigmore Church. Hay Park. Scene of 'Comus.' Bringewood Chase. View from the Vignoles. Croft Ambrey. Richard's Castle. Burrington Church. Downton Castle. Scenery of the Teme. Bitterley Church and Cross. Caynham Camp. Titterstone Clee Hill and Camp. Brown Clee Hill and Camps of Clee Burf and Abdon Burf. Wheathill Church. Burwarton Church.

Bromfield. Priory Church. Oakley Park. Staunton Lacey Church.

Craven Arms. Stokesay. Norton Camp. Corvedale. Cortham Castle. Delbury Church. The Heath Chapel. Munslow Church. Millichope Old House. Holgate Church.

Church Stretton. Church. Ascent of Longmynd. Carding Mill. Devil's Mouth. Lydd Spout. Ratlinghope. Castle Ring. Bodbury Ring. Portway. Ascent of Caer Caradoc. (Camp.) Cardington. Hope Bowdler.

Leobrook. Acton Burnell Park. Castle. Church. Frodesley Church. Pitchford Hall. Church.

Condover. Park and Church.

Woolferton. Little Hereford Church. Timber bridge over the Teme. Easton Court. Bleatherwood Court.

Tenbury. Church. Butter Cross. Wells. St. Michael's College. Burford Church.

Neen Sollars. Mamble Church. Shakenhurst.

Cleobury Mortimer. Church and wooden spire. Grammar School. Mawley Hall. Limestone scenery at Farlow and Oreton. Forest of Wyre.

Bewdley. Railway bridge. Scenery of the Severn. Habberley Valley.

Bridgnorth. Castle. St. Leonard's Church. St. Mary's Church. Town-hall. Bishop Percy's House. Bridge. Grammar School. Hermitage. Quatford Church. Claverley Church. Stoddesdon Church. Cleobury Church. Davenport House. Worfield Church. Scenery of the Worf. Badger Hall. Scenery of Badger Dingle. Morville Church. Upton Cresset Church. Aston Eyre Church. Acton Round Church. Astley Abbott Church.

Higley. Kinlet Hall and Church. Chelmarsh Church.

Linley. Church. Apley Park. The Terrace. Willey Park.

Coalport. Scenery of Severn.

Iron Bridge. Church. Bridge. Coalbrook Dale Works. Scenery. Broseley. Pritchard Memorial. Church. Messrs. Maw's Tile Works at Benthall. Scenery at Benthall Edge.

Buildwas. Abbey. Railway Bridge. Leighton Church.

Cressage. Timber bridge. Old oak.

- Berrington.* Church.
Knighton. Old house. Church. Offa's Dyke. Farrington. Craig
 Donna. Holloway Rocks. Caer Caradoc. Coxwall Knoll.
Clun. Castle. Church. Bury Ditches.
Bishop's Castle. Church. Walcot Park. Linley Hall. Snead Camp.
 Simond's Castle. Marrington Dyke. Corndon Hill. Circle at Mitchell's
 Fold. Shelve Mines.
Minsterley. Church. Stiperstones. Habberley Camp. Pontesbury
 Church.
Hopton. Castle.
Longville. Old house at Plash. Church Preen Church.
Easthope. Lutwych Hall. The Ditches.
Wenlock. Abbey ruins. Church. Prior's residence. Old houses.
 Barrow Church.
Albrighton. Church. Patshull Park and Church. Patingham Church.
 Donington Church. White Ladies Ruins. Boscobel Wood and House.
 Weston Park. Tonge Church. Castle.
Shifnal. Church. View from Brimstree Hill.
Oakengates. Malins Lee Chapel. Coalfield.
Wellington. Church. Apley Castle. Excursion to the Wrekin. Eyton
 Church.
Hodnet. Hall. Church. Child's Ercal Church.
Market Drayton. Church. Blore Heath. Muckleston Church.
Adderley. Hall. Shavington.
Shrewsbury. Railway Station. Castle. Town Walls. Welsh and
 English bridges. St. Mary's Church. St. Alkmund's. St. Julian's. Old
 St. Chad's. New St. Chad's. Abbey Church. Monastic remains. Stone
 pulpit. St. Giles'. St. Michael's. School. St. Nicholas' Chapel. Council
 House. Old buildings. Grey Friar ruins. Butter Market. Corn Ex-
 change. Market House. Clive Monument. Lord Hill's Column. Dra-
 pers' Almshouses. Wellington Hospital. Museum. Quarry. Glyndwr's
 Oak. Atcham Church. Attingham Hall. Wroxeter Church. Roman
 city. Haughmond Abbey. Sundorne Park. Uffington Hill. Ebury Camp
 Upton Magna Church. Battlefield Church. Albright Hussey. Longner
 Hall. Tomb of Edward Burton.
Donnington. Lilleshall Abbey. Ironworks.
Newport. Church. Aqualate Park. Edgmond Church and Rectory.
 Chetwynd Park.
Baschurch. Church. Berth Hill Camp. Ruyton of the 11 Towns.
Whittington. Castle.
Oswestry. Church. Old Oswestry. Castell Brogyntyn. Porkington.
 Watt's Dyke. Llanyrnach Hill. Llanyblodwell Church.
Gobowen. Scenery of Glen Ceiriog. Viaduct and Aqueduct. Halston.
Ellesmere. Church. Lake. Hardwicke.
Bettesfield. Hanmer Church.
Westbury. Caus Castle.
Alberbury. Church. Loton. Belan Bank. Rowton Castle. Wattle-
 borough Castle. Woolaston. Breidden Hills.

Hadnall. Church. Shawbury Church. Moreton Corbet House. Church.
Yorton. Grinshill. Copper-mines at Clive.
Wem. Church. Hawkstone Park.
Whitchurch. Church.

II.—CHESHIRE.

Wrenbury. Church. Combermere Abbey.
Nantwich. Church. Town Hall. Dorfold Hall.
Crewe. Railway Station. Engine Factories. Bessemer Steel Works.
 Crewe Hall.
Sandbach. Church. Inn. Crosses.
Holmes Chapel. Cotton Hall. Blackden Hall. Somerford Booths.
 Davenport Hall. Brereton Hall and Church.
Chelford. Withington Hall. Capesthorpe.
Alderley. Edge. Copper Mines.
Wimslow. Church. Lindow Common.
Handforth. Styal. Norcliffe Hall.
Stockport. Railway Viaduct. Church. Market Place. Timbered
 Houses. Vernon Park. Factories. Bramhall.
Poynton. Hall.
Adlington. Adlington Hall.
Macclesfield. Church. Rivers Chapel. Christ Church. Cemetery.
 Park. Grammar School. Silk Mills. Excursion to Cat and Fiddle.
 Reservoirs near Langley. Prestbury Church. Shutlingslow. Bollington.
 Pott Shrigley Church. Gawsworth Church.
Congleton. Town Hall. Silk Mills. Timbered Houses. Cloud End.
 Congleton Edge. Mow Cop. Biddulph. Astbury Church. Little More-
 ton Hall. Great Moreton Hall.
Harecastle. Tunnel. Lawton Church. Coal Mines.
Whaley Bridge. Scenery of the Goyt. Roosdych. Taxall Church.
Disley. Lyme Park.
Marple. Hall. Church. View from the Churchyard. Chadkirk
 Church. Compstall.
Woodley. Werneth Low. Harden Hall.
Hyde. Church. Cotton Mills. Dukinfield Chapel and Hall.
Mottram. Church. View from Churchyard.
Dinting Vale. Viaduct.
Glossop. Hall. Church. Melandra Castle. Mouslow Castle.
Hadfield. Tintwistle. Manchester Reservoirs in the Etherow Valley.
Cheadle. Church.
Northenden. Wythenshaw Hall.
Baguley. Baguley Hall.
Dunham Massey. Hall. Dunham Church.
Altrincham. Scenery of the Bollin. Bowden Downs. Church.

Timperley. Riddings. Firtree Farm. Ashton on Mersey. Roman Station. Carrington Moss.
Heatley. Warburton Church. Hall.
Lymn. Church. Dell of the Dane. Hall. Quarries. High Léigh. East Hall. West Hall.
Thehwall. Grappenhall Church.
Ashley. Hall. Scenery of the Bollin. Rostherne Mere and Church. Mere Hall.
Mobberly. Church. Dukinfield Hall.
Knutsford. Church. Gaol. Old Church. Tatton Park and Gardens. Toft Hall and Church. Over Peover Hall and Church. Tabley Old Hall.
Plumley. Holford Hall.
Northwich. Salt Works. Old Marston Mine. Marbury Hall. Budworth Church. Arley Hall and Chapel.
Minshull Vernon. Erdeswick Hall.
Winsford. Salt Works. Over.
Hartford Bridge. Vale Royal. Scenery of the Weaver. Weaverham Church. Dutton Hall. Delamere Forest. View from Eddisbury Hill. Old Fortress. Tumuli. Kelsborough Castle. Tarvin Church.
Middlewich. Church. Lea Hall. Bostock. Davenham.
Calverley. Wetenhall Hall. Wardle Hall.
Beeston. Castle. Peckforton Castle. Walk through the woods to Burwardsley. Peckforton Hills. Bunbury Church. Tarporley Church. Swan Inn. Oulton Park.
Tattenhall. Huxley Hall. Hatton.
Waverton. Rowton Heath.
Malpas. Church. Cholmondeley Castle. Broxton. Peckforton Hills. Garden. Farndon. Holt. Handley Church. Calverley Hall.
Chester. Walls. Gates. Phœnix Tower. Water Tower. Bonwaldesthorpe's Tower. Morgan's Mount. Pemberton's Parlour. Wishing Steps. View from Walls. Rows. God's Providence House. Bishop Lloyd's House. Stanley Palace. Timber houses. Roman remains. Cathedrals. St. John's. St. Peter's. St. Mary's. Trinity Church. Castle. Grosvenor Bridge. Exchange. Music Hall. Blue Coat School. Eaton Hall. Eccleston Church. Lache Hall. Dodleston. Kinnerton Hall. Plemstall Church. Saughton Grange.
Helby. Scenery of the hills. Alvanley.
Mollington. Shotwick Church. Views of Flintshire coast.
Hooton. Hall.
Neston. Church.
Parkgate. The Dee.
Hoylake. Hilbre Island. Leasowe Castle. Bidston Hill. Observatory.
Birkenhead. Ferries. Landing Station. Docks. Wallasey Pool. Park. Hamilton Square. Tramroads. St. Aidan's College. Workmen's dwellings. Seacombe. Egremont. New Brighton. Sloyne. Stourton Hill and Quarries. Eastham.
Ince. Manor House. Church. Thornton Hall.
 [*Shropshire, &c.*]

Whitby. Port Ellesmere Docks.
Frodsham. Church. Scenery of hills and Weaver.
Halton. Castle. Church. Rock Savage.
Runcorn. Church. Canal Works. Railway Bridge. Weston Point.
Norton. Priory. Daresbury Chapel.

III.—LANCASHIRE.

Warrington. Church. Educational Institution. Museum. Bewsey Hall. Roman Station at Wilderspool. Winwick Church. St. Oswald's Well.
Newton. Old Hall. Burtonwood Farmhouse. Castle Hill.
Wigan. Church. Kirkless Hall Iron Works. Collieries. Haigh Hall. Old Houses. Tyldesley Obelisk. Mab's Cross. Roman Catholic Chapel at Westwood. Ince Hall.
Standish. Church. Hall. Arley Hall.
Euxton. Duxbury Park. Euxton Hall.
Leyland. Church. Hall.
Chorley. Church. Roman Catholic Chapel. Astley Hall. Whittle Springs.
Adlington. Rivington Church and Village. Liverpool Reservoirs. Dean Wood. Rivington Pike.
Bolton. Church. Town Hall. Cotton Factories. Crompton Statue. Smithills Hall. Little Bolton. Hall-i'-th'-Wood. Ringley Church. Darcy Lever Hall. Bradshaw Hall.
Manchester. Infirmary. Royal Exchange. Assize Courts. Town Hall. Manchester and Salford Bank. Free Trade Hall. Natural History Museum. Royal Institution. Athenæum. Memorial Hall. Chetham Hospital and Library. Cathedral. Owens College. Blind Asylum. Botanic Gardens. St. John's. St. Peter's. Roman Catholic Church of St. John. Peel Park and Museum. Queen's Park. Phillips Park. Hulme Park. Zoological Gardens. Pomona Gardens. Theatres. Concert Hall. Cotton Factories. Watt's Warehouses. Swinton Industrial Schools. Agecroft Hall.
Clayton Bridge. Clayton Hall. Fairfield Moravian Village.
Ashton. Church. Infirmary. Old Hall. Bestal.
Staley Bridge. Mills. Wild Bank. Buckley Hall.
Mossley. Hartshead. Bucton Castle.
Oldham. Town Hall. Messrs. Platts' Works. School of Art. Blue Coat School.
Middleton. Church. Rectory. Schwabe's Print Works. Chadderton Hall. Hopwood Hall.
Heywood. Scenery of the Roch.
Rochdale. Church. Town Hall. Grammar School. Castleton Hall.

Buckley Hall. Clegg Hall. Healey Hall. Valley of the Spodden. The Thrutch. Tyrone's Bed. Whitworth Church. Wolstenholme Hall. Oakenwood Hall.

Littleborough. Hollingworth Lake. Blackstone Edge. Pike House. Old House at Steanor Bottom.

Todmorden. Scenery of the Calder Valley. Waterside Cotton Mills. Todmorden Hall. Stanfield Hall. Stoodley Hill.

Holme. Scenery of the Cliviger "Cloughs." The Holme. Long Causeway and Crosses. Ormerod. Barcroft. Towneley Hall.

Radcliffe. Church. Tower.

Bury. St. John's Church. Peel Statue. Brandlesholme Hall. Stand Church.

Ramsbottom. Holcombe Hill. Peel Tower. Print Works.

Haslingden. Church.

Bacup. Forest of Rossendale. The Dikes. Source of the Irwell. Walk to Burnley. Thievely Pike.

Bromley Cross. Turton Tower. Chetham's Close.

Over Darwen. St. John's Church. India Mills.

Blackburn. Church. Old Church Tower. Town Hall. Corporation Park. Billings Hill. Samlesbury Hall.

Ribchester. Church. Osbaldestone Hall.

Whalley. Abbey Ruins. Church. Nab Side. Mitton Hall and Church. Stonyhurst College. Scenery of the Hodder. Padiham. Gawthorpe Hall.

Clitheroe. Castle. Church. The Abbey. Pendle Hill. Mearley Hall. Bashall. Browsholme. Whitewell. Scenery of the Hodder Valley and Bowland.

Chatburn. Waddington Hall. Horrocksford Hall. Downham. Sawley Abbey.

Colne. Church. Emmot Hall. Barnside. Wycoller.

Burnley. Church. Towneley Hall. Extwistle Hall. Rowley.

Pleasington. Fenniscoverles.

Hoghton. Tower.

Eccles. Church. Monk's Hall.

Worsley. Church. Village. Worsley Hall. Bridgewater Canal. Collieries. Walkden Moor Memorial. Wardley Hall. Kempnall Hall.

Leigh. Church.

Dean. Church.

Patricroft. Nasmyth's Works. Barton Old Hall. Irlam Hall. Shaw Hall. Flixton Church. Urmston Church and Hall. Chatmoss.

Bury Lane. Woolden Hall.

St Helen's. Bold Hall. Windleshaw Abbey. Glass Works.

Prescot. Church. Knowsley Hall. Huyton Church.

Widness. Chemical and Alkali Works. Viaduct over the Mersey.

Farnworth. Church.

Hale. Church. Decoy.

Speke. Hall.

Liverpool. Custom House. St. George's Landing Stage. Docks. Sailors'

Home. Town Hall. Exchange. St. George's Hall. Institution. Royal Institution. St. Peter's Church. St. Nicholas' Church. Theatre. Zoological Gardens.

Waterloo.

Crosby. Roman Catholic Church. Ince Blundell.

Southport. Sands. Pier.

Maghull. Sephton Church. Lydiat Chapel.

Ormskirk. Church. Burscough Priory. Lathom House.

Rufford. Old Hall.

Croston. Hall and Chapel. Eccleston Church. Gradwell's Farm. Bank Hall.

Preston. Town Hall. Scenery of Ribble. Penwortham Church. Roman Catholic Churches. Literary Institute. Miller Park. Avenham Park. Moor Park. Walton Church. Longridge Quarries. Lea Hall. Cottam.

Kirkham. Church. Roman Catholic Church.

Lytham. Church. Clifton Hall.

Poulton. Church. Bispham Church.

Blackpool. Cliffs. Pier. Rossall School.

Fleetwood. Views over Morecambe. Pilling Moss.

Broughton. Church.

Garstang. Aqueduct. Church. Greenhaigh Castle.

Lancaster. Castle. Church. Roman Catholic Church. Grammar School. Lunatic Asylum. Bleasdale Fells. Ripley's Hospital. Morecambe. Heysham Church and Oratory. Cockersand Abbey. Sunderland. Glasson Docks.

Hulton. Aqueduct. Quernmore Park and Church.

Caton. Scenery of the Lune and Artle Beck. Ravenscar Hill.

Hornby. Church. Castle.

Melling. Church. Thurland Castle. Tunstall Church.

Carnforth. Ironworks. Yealand Conyers.

Silverdale. Scenery of the Bay.

Arnside. Tower. Heslop Tower. Arnside Knot. Whitbarrow Scar.

Grange. Holm Island. Yewbarrow. Hempselfell. Cartmell Church. Humphrey Head.

Carl. Holker Hall. Chapel Island.

Ulverston. Barrow Moor. Church. Sir J. Barrow's Birthplace. Swartmoor Hall. Iron Mines. Conishead Priory. Bardsea Hall. Birkrigg. Aldingham Church. Urswick Church. Gleaston Castle.

Dulton. Church. Lindal Mines.

Furness. Abbey.

Barrow. Island. Docks. Steel Works. Peel of Fouldrey.

Newby Bridge. Scenery of the Leven and Crake Colton. Windermere. Graythwaite Hall. Storrs Hall.

Bowness. Church. Curwen's Island. Scenery of the Lakes.

Ireth. Quarries.

Broughton. Tower. Church. Scenery of the Duddon. The Stepping Stones. Cockley Beck. Dunnerdale.

Coniston. Lake. Old Man. Copper Mines. Yewdale. Tilberthwaite.

Hawkshead. Church. Town Hall. Hawkshead Hall. Esthwaite Water. Wrae Castle. Brathay.

VI. CELEBRATED MEN,

WHO HAVE BEEN BORN IN OR ARE IDENTIFIED WITH THE
HISTORY OF THE COUNTIES.

I.—SHROPSHIRE.

- Alison, Sir A., the historian.
 Adams, Sir T., Lord Mayor of London in the 17th centy.
 Baxter, the Nonconformist divine. 17th centy.
 Beddoes, Dr., chemist and man of science. 18th centy.
 Benbow, Admiral. 1650.
 Brown, Isaac, lawyer and poet. 18th centy.
 Brown, Tom, poet. 17th centy.
 Burnell, Sir Robert, Bishop of Bath and Wells. 14th centy.
 Burney, Dr., musician. 18th centy.
 Charlton, Sir Job, Judge of Common Pleas. James I.
 Churchyard, the poet. 16th centy.
 Clive, Lord, the Indian hero. 18th centy.
 Edwardes, Sir Herbert, of Mooltan.
 Farmer, Hugh, a celebrated Dissenting minister. 18th centy.
 Hanmer, Sir T., Speaker of the House of Commons. 18th centy.
 Hayes, William, Dr., organist of St. Mary's, Shrewsbury. 18th centy.
 Hill, Lord, the Peninsular hero.
 Hill, Sir Richard, controversialist.
 Hill, Sir Rowland, the originator of the Penny Post.
 Hill, Rowland, the preacher.
 Hyde, Dr., Orientalist and keeper of the Bodleian. 17th centy.
 Ireland, John, author. 18th centy.
 Johnes, Thomas, of Hafod, translator of 'Froissart's Chronicles.'
 Kynaston, Sir Francis, scholar and poet. 16th centy.
 Longland, Robert, poet. 14th centy.
 More, Richard, M.P. for Bishop's Castle in the Long Parliament.
 Orton, Job, scholar and Nonconformist.
 Owen, T., Judge of Common Pleas. Reign of Elizabeth.
 Parr, Old, the "centenarian."
 Percy, Bishop, author of 'The Reliques.'
 Robert of Shrewsbury, Bishop of Bangor. 13th centy.

Stephens, Jeremiah, scholar and critic. 17th centy.
 Taylor, translator of Demosthenes.
 Thomas, John, Bishop of Salisbury. 18th centy.
 Wycherley, poet and dramatist. 17th centy.

 II.—CHESHIRE.

Birkenhead, Sir J., editor of the 'Mercurius Aulicus,' during the Civil War.
 Booth, George, Baron Delamere. During the Civil War.
 Booth, John, Bishop of Exeter.
 Booth, Lawrence, Archbishop of York. Reign of Edward IV.
 Booth, William, Archbishop of York.
 Boydell, John, Lord Mayor of London. 18th centy.
 Bradshaw, Sir H., Chief Baron of the Exchequer. Reign of Edward VI.
 Bradshaw, John, President of the Court that condemned Charles I.
 Brereton, Sir W., the Parliamentary commander.
 Bruen, John, a celebrated Puritan gentleman.
 Calveley, Sir Hugh, a naval commander. Reign of James I.
 Cotton, Sir Stapleton, the Peninsular general.
 Crewe, Sir Randal, Chief Justice to James I.
 Dukenfield, Colonel, a Parliamentary leader.
 Davenport, Sir Humphry, Chief Baron of the Exchequer. Charles I.
 Egerton, Thomas, Master of the Rolls to Queen Elizabeth.
 Fothergill, Dr., a celebrated physician. 18th centy.
 Gerarde, John, the herbalist. 16th centy.
 Harrison, Thomas, the regicide.
 Heber, Reginald, Bishop of Calcutta.
 Henry, Matthew, the commentator.
 Higden, Ralph, the chronicler.
 Holinshed, Ralph, the chronicler and antiquary in the reign of Elizabeth.
 Legh, Sir Perkin, knighted at the battle of Crecy.
 Leicester, Sir P., antiquary.
 Lindsey, Theophilus, a celebrated Unitarian divine of the 18th centy.
 Nedham, Sir John, Judge in reign of Henry VI.
 Nixon, the Cheshire prophet in the time of James I.
 Parnell, Dr., Archdeacon of Clogher, and poet.
 Percival, Sir T., Lord Mayor of London. Edward IV.
 Shaw, Dr., a noted preacher. Reign of Edward IV.
 Shaw, Sir E., Lord Mayor of London. Reign of Richard III.
 Speed, John, antiquary. Reign of James I.
 Touchet, Sir John, commander. Time of Edward IV.
 Whitney, Geoffrey, poet. Time of Elizabeth.

III.—LANCASHIRE.

- Ainsworth, the lexicographer.
 Ainsworth, Laurence, a Puritan Preacher.
 Ainsworth, Harrison, the Novelist.
 Allen, Cardinal. Reign of Elizabeth.
 Arkwright, Sir Richard, inventor of cotton spinning machinery. 1732.
 Arrowsmith, Father, a priest of great celebrity.
 Bancroft, Dr., Archbishop of Canterbury. 1544.
 Barbauld, Mrs., the authoress.
 Barlow, Dr., Bishop of Lincoln. 16th centy.
 Barrow, Sir John, the Arctic discoverer.
 Bradford, John, the martyr. 16th centy.
 Brideoak, Dr., Bishop of Chichester. Charles II.'s reign.
 Bridgewater, Duke of, the canal maker. 18th centy.
 Byrom, Dr., a poet. Died 1763.
 Chadderton, Lawrence, Master of Emmanuel College. 16th centy.
 Chetham, Humphrey, the founder of the Chetham Library. 17th centy.
 Christopherson, John, Bishop of Chichester. 16th centy.
 Crompton, Samuel, inventor of the "mule." 18th centy.
 Collier, John, a humorous poet.
 Dalton, Dr., the physicist.
 Dee, Dr., Warden of the Manchester College.
 Derby, Earls of.
 Enfield, Dr., author of the 'Speaker.'
 Fell, Judge. 17th centy.
 Fleetwood, W., Recorder of London. Reign of Elizabeth.
 Fleetwood, Dr. William, Bishop of St. Asaph and Ely.
 Fox, George, founder of the Quakers, 17th centy.
 Gregson, Matthew the antiquary. Died 1824.
 Gibson, the sculptor. Died 1868.
 Hargreaves, John, inventor of the "jenny." 1764.
 Hemans, Mrs., the poetess. Died 1835.
 Henry, Dr., the chemist. 17th centy.
 Heton, Dr. Martin, Bishop of Ely. 16th centy.
 Heywood, Oliver, the Nonconformist. 17th centy.
 Horrox, Jeremiah, the astronomer. 1619.
 Hodgkinson, Eaton, the engineer. 1861.
 Hutton, Dr. Matthew, Bishop of Coventry, Durham, and Archbishop of York. 16th centy.
 John of Gaunt.
 Kaye, John, the inventor of "shuttle throwing." 18th centy.
 Kemble, the tragedian.
 Kuerden, Dr. Ricd., antiquary.
 Kytson, Sir Thomas, a noted merchant in Henry VIII.'s reign.
 Law, Dr., Bishop of Carlisle. 18th centy.

- Leigh, Dr., naturalist and antiquary. 1700.
 Leland, Dr. 1691. A Presbyterian preacher.
 Lever, Sir Ashton, a celebrated connoisseur. 18th centy.
 Lever, Dr., Master of St. John's, Cambridge. Reign of Edward VI.
 Lingard, Dr., the historian.
 Markland, Jeremiah, scholar and writer. 17th centy.
 Marsh, George, the martyr. 16th centy.
 Mauncell, John, Chief Justice of England and parson of Wigan.
 Nowell, Alexander, Dean of St. Paul's. Reign of Elizabeth.
 Nowell, Laurence, Dean of Lichfield, and topographer.
 Ogden, Dr., Professor of Geology, Cambridge. 1788.
 Oldham, Hugh, Bishop of Exeter. 16th centy.
 Owen, Professor.
 Peel, Sir Robert, Prime Minister of England.
 Penketh, Thomas, the Friar, mentioned in Shakespeare.
 Percival, Dr., founder of the Manchester Philosophical Society.
 Pilkington, Dr., Bishop of Durham. 16th centy.
 Priestley, Dr., the chemist. 18th centy. Resided at Warrington.
 Raffles, Dr., Nonconformist preacher.
 Rasbotham, Dorning, antiquary. 18th centy.
 Rathbone, William, leader of the anti-slavery party. Died 1868.
 Rawlinson, Christopher, scholar and classic author.
 Romney, the painter. 1734.
 Roscoe, William, author and philanthropist. 18th centy.
 Sandys, Dr., Archbishop of York. 16th centy.
 Sandys, George, his son, a celebrated traveller.
 Smith, Dr., Bishop of Lincoln and President of Wales.
 Spenser, Edmund, the poet.
 Standish, Dr. Henry, a reformer in reign of Henry VIII.
 Standish, Miles, the emigrant to New England.
 Standish, Thomas, one of the leading Royalists.
 Stowell, Rev. Hugh, a celebrated Manchester preacher.
 Stubbs, George, an animal painter. 1724.
 Towneley, Charles, antiquary, collector of marbles. 1805.
 Towneley, Christopher, antiquary. 1603.
 Tunstal, Cuthbert, Bishop of Durham in the reign of Henry VIII.
 Tyldesley, Sir Thomas, a Royalist leader.
 Ulverston, Richard, antiquary, temp. Henry VI.
 Walker, Rev. Robert, of Newfield.
 Warburton, John. Somerset Herald. Died 1681.
 Weaver, John, antiquary. 1632.
 Wensleydale, Lord. Died 1868.
 Whewell, Dr., Master of Trinity College, Cambridge.
 Whitaker, Dr., antiquary and historian of Whalley.
 Whitehead, John, the inventor of "piecing."
 Wordsworth, the poet.
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VII. SKELETON TOURS.

(To be varied according to pleasure.)

(The Places marked in *Italics* are the best for Head-quarters.)

I.—SHROPSHIRE.

Days.

1. By rail from *Wolverhampton* to Codsall or Albrighton Stata. Drive or walk thence to White Ladies and Boscobel (not shown after 5 P.M.). Continue excursion to Tonge Church and Castle. Sleep at *Shiffnal*.
2. See Shiffnal Church. Walk to Brimstree Hill. By rail to Wellington. Excursion to Wrekin. Sleep at *Wellington*.
3. By rail to Lilleshall. See Abbey and Ironworks. Return to *Shrewsbury* by rail, and on the way see Upton Magna Church.
4. Spend at *Shrewsbury*.
5. Excursions in the morning to Haughmond Abbey and Uffington Hill; in afternoon to Battlefield Church and Moreton Corbet, returning by rail from Hadnall to *Shrewsbury*.
6. Excursion to Atcham and Wroxeter. Afternoon by train to Buildwas. See Abbey. Sleep at *Buildwas*.
7. Excursion to Wenlock. See Abbey, &c.; scenery of Benthall and Wenlock Edges. Sleep at *Coalbrook Dale*.
8. Ironworks. Lincoln Hill. By rail from Ironbridge to Linley. See the Terrace at Apley Park. Sleep at *Bridgnorth*.
9. See Bridgnorth. Afternoon excursion to Worfield and the Badger Dingle. Return to *Bridgnorth*.
10. Rail to Bewdley. See Forest of Wyre and Cleobury Mortimer; thence to *Tenbury*, where sleep. See Burford Church in afternoon.
11. See St. Michael's College. Afternoon, rail to Little Hereford, where see church, and on by train to *Ludlow*. See Castle.
12. *Ludlow*. Afternoon, excursion to Vignoles and scene of Milton's 'Comus.'
13. Excursion to Leintwardine and Downton. Scenery of the Teme.
14. Excursion to the Clew Hills, returning to *Ludlow* by Staunton Lacey.
15. From Ludlow by rail to Craven Arms. See Stokesay Castle. Rail from Craven Arms to Hopton Castle and *Knighton*, where sleep.
16. Excursion to Clun Church and Castle. Continue to Bury Ditches and on to *Bishop's Castle*.
17. From Bishop's Castle in afternoon, by rail, to Lydham Heath, for Linley, Craven Arms, and *Church Stretton*.
18. Explore the Longmynd, and, if a good pedestrian, continue over the Stiperstones to Minsterley Stat., where take last train to *Shrewsbury*; or Ascend the *Caer Caradoc* or Lawley, and afternoon by train to *Shrewsbury*.

Days.

19. By train to Middletown Stat., and ascend the Breiddens. Return to Shrewsbury, or, if preferred, go on to Welshpool and take the train to *Oswestry*.
20. See *Oswestry* and *Llanymynach Hill*. Afternoon, train to *Whittington*. See *Castle*. Sleep at *Ellesmere*.
21. See *Ellesmere*, and by rail to *Whitchurch* and *Wem*. Afternoon, excursion to *Hawkstone*. Sleep at the Inn there.
23. Drive or walk to *Hodnet*, and thence by train to *Market Drayton* and *Nantwich*; or
Return from *Hawkstone* to *Wem*, and take the train to *Wrenbury*. See *Combermere Abbey*, and by rail from *Wrenbury* to *Nantwich*.

II.—CHESHIRE.

1. See *Nantwich*, *Acton Church*, *Combermere Abbey* (train from *Nantwich* to *Wrenbury*), and in evening to *Crewe*, where sleep.
2. See *Railway Stat.* and *Engine-works*; *Crewe Hall*. Afternoon, take the train to *Basford* and visit *Wybunbury Church*.
3. From *Crewe* by train to *Harecastle* and *Mow Cop*. See *Great and Little Moreton Halls*; *Astbury Church*. Sleep at *Congleton*.
4. Excursion to *Congleton Edge* or *Cloud Hill*, and to *Biddulph Gardens*. In evening by rail to *Macclesfield*.
5. See *Macclesfield*. Afternoon, excursion to *Shutlingslow*.
6. Excursion to *Cat and Fiddle*, returning to *Macclesfield* by *Jenkin's Chapel* and *Bollington*.
7. By train to *Bramhall*. See the *Hall*. Sleep at *Stockport*.
8. Excursion from *Stockport* to *Lyme Park*, *Disley Church*, and *Whaley Bridge*. If time, walk to *Taxal*. Return to *Stockport*.
9. Excursion to *Chadkirk*, *Marple Hall*, and to *Hyde* for *Harden* and *Dukinfield Halls*. Return to *Stockport*.
10. Excursion by rail to *Mottram*, *Tintwistle*, the *Reservoirs*, and *Glossop*.
11. From *Stockport* by rail to *Alderley*. See the *Edge* and *Copper works*. Afternoon, by rail to *Sandbach*.
12. See *Sandbach*, *Brereton Hall*, and other old houses in the neighbourhood. Afternoon, by train to *Middlewich* and *Northwich*.
13. See *Northwich Salt-works* and (if possible) *Old Marston Mine*. Afternoon, *Holford Hall* or *Arley Hall* and *Chapel*. Sleep at *Knuttsford*.
14. See *Ashley Hall*, *Rostherne Church* and *Mere*, *Bowdon Church* and *Downs*, and *Dunham Massey*. Sleep at *Altrincham*.
15. See *Wythenshaw* and *Baguley Halls*, *Lymm Church* and *Quarries*, and *Grappenhall Church*. Sleep at *Warrington*.
16. By rail from *Warrington* to *Hartford Bridge*, where catch the omnibus for *Northwich* to *Delamere Forest*, *Tarvin*, and *Chester*.
17. See *Chester* and *Eaton Hall*.

Days.

18. Excursion to Beeston Castle, Tarporley, and Bunbury Church. The pedestrian can sleep at *Beeston* and walk on to the Peckforton Hills, Broxton, Carden, Handley, and *Chester*.
19. From *Chester* by rail to Frodsham; excursion over the Hills. Afternoon, see Runcorn and Halton Castle; and, in the evening, by train (via Helsby) to *Birkenhead*.
21. See Birkenhead Docks and town. Afternoon, by rail to Bidston, Leasowes, and *Hoylake*, where sleep.
22. Walk or drive to Parkgate. By rail to Neston and Eastham, whence cross by steamer to *Liverpool*.

III.—LANCASHIRE.

1. See Liverpool, Docks, and public buildings.
2. Finish exploration of Liverpool. Afternoon, by rail to Speke Hall, Widness, and *Warrington*.
3. See Warrington Church, Bewsey Hall, Winwick Church, Newton, and by rail to *Wigan*.
4. See Wigan. By rail to Upholland, thence, to St. Helens, Prescot, Huyton, and *Liverpool*.
5. By rail to Southport. Afternoon to Burscough Priory and sleep at *Ormskirk*.
6. From *Ormskirk* by rail to Wigan and Tyldesley. See Worsley and Kempnall Halls; Eccles Church. In evening to *Manchester*.
- 7 and 8. Spend at *Manchester*.
9. By rail to Ashton-under-Lyne and Staley Bridge, returning to *Manchester*.
10. *Manchester* by rail to Oldham and Middleton. In afternoon to *Rochdale*, where sleep.
11. Scenery of the Roch; Hollingsworth Lake. Scenery of the Calder Valley. Sleep at *Todmorden*.
12. Scenery of Cliviger, The Holme, Burnley. Sleep at *Colne*.
13. Return to Burnley by rail. Walk over Rossendale to Bacup; thence by rail to Ramsbottom and Holcombe. Sleep at *Bury*.
14. See Radcliffe Tower, and by rail to *Bolton*. See Smithills Hall and Hall-i'-th'-Wood. Sleep at *Bolton*.
15. By rail to Adlington. See Reservoirs, and ascend Rivington Pike. Evening, by train from Bolton to *Blackburn*.
16. See Blackburn and Samlesbury Hall. Afternoon, by train to Whalley. See Church and Abbey. Sleep at *Whalley*.
17. Drive or walk to Mitton and Stonyhurst, returning to Clitheroe. Afternoon, excursion to Horrocksford or Mearley Halls.
18. By rail to Chatburn. See Sawley Abbey. In afternoon, excursion to Pendle Hill.

Days.

19. Walk or drive from Clitheroe to Whitewell, returning to Longridge, where take the train to *Preston*.
20. *Preston* by rail to Rufford and Croxton. In afternoon, by rail to Lytham and *Blackpool*, where sleep.
 1. By rail to Fleetwood, returning to *Preston*, where spend the remainder of the day.
22. From *Preston* by rail to Garstang, Greenhaigh Castle, and on to *Lancaster*.
23. From *Lancaster* by rail to Morecambe. Excursion to Heysham. In afternoon, excursion by rail from Morecambe to Hornby, returning to *Lancaster* to sleep.
24. The pedestrian may spend a day in an excursion to the Trough of Bolland, over Wyersdale.
25. From *Lancaster* to Carnforth by rail, and branch off to Melling. Excursion to Tunstall and Kirkby Lonsdale. Sleep at *Grange*.
26. See Cartmel Church and Holker Hall. Sleep at *Ulverston*.
27. Excursion to Conishead, Gleeston, Urswick, &c.
28. Rail to Dalton : Iron-mines. Afternoon, to *Furness Abbey*.
29. See Barrow Works and Docks ; Peel of Fouldrey. Afternoon, by train to Kirkby Ireleth (quarries) and *Broughton*, where sleep.
30. Excursion up the Duddon Valley and (if a pedestrian) over Walna Scar to *Coniston*.
31. Ascend Coniston Old Man. Explore the Lake.
32. From Coniston to Hawkshead, Esthwaite, and *Ambleside*.
33. By steamer to Bowness, *Newby Bridge*, and the Valley of the Leven.

VIII. ANTIQUARIAN TOURS.

(*The Places in Italics are the best Centres from which to explore.*)

I.—SHROPSHIRE—(COMMENCING AT BEWDLEY).

Days.

1. Rail to Cleobury Mortimer (Church), or to Neen Sollers Station, thence walk to Mable Church. On to Tenbury (Church). Burford Church. Little Hereford Church. Reach *Ludlow* for head-quarters.
2. Ludlow Castle. Church. Reader's House. Grammar School. Lane Asylum. Bull and Feathers Inns. Bridge and Gate. Ludford Church. Bromfield and Staunton Lacey Churches.
3. Aston Church. Wigmore Church and Castle. Croft Ambrey Earthwork. Richard's Castle. Scene of 'Comus.'
4. Caynham Camp. Bitterley Cross, Church, and Court. Titterston Clee Camp. Continue excursion either to Brown Clee, and see the Camps

Days.

- of Clee Burf, Abdon Burf, and Nordy Bank, or else visit the Churches of Wheathill, Burwarton, and Aston Botterell.
5. *Craven Arms*. Stokesay Castle. Norton Camp. View Edge. Culmington Church. Cortham Castle. The Heath Chapel. Delbury Church.
 6. Hopton Castle. Coxwall Knoll. *Knighton*, old houses. Farington. Caer Caradoc.
 7. Drive to Clun Church and Castle. Bury Ditches. Tumuli. *Bishop's Castle* Church. Camp at Snead. Hyssington Church. Circles on Corndon Hill.
 8. Billing's Ring. Castle Ring. *Church Stretton* Church. Ancient roads on Longmynd. Brockhurst Castle. Bodbury Ring. Caer Caradoc.
 9. By train to Lebotwood station. Walk to Frodesley Church. Acton Burnell Castle. Pitchford Hall and Church, rejoining the Severn Valley Railway at Condover Station; thence to *Shrewsbury*.
 10. Spend in examination of Shrewsbury.
 11. Visit Atcham Church. Wroxeter Church and City; returning by Upton Magna Church. Uffington Church. Haughmond Abbey. Ebury Camp; and by Sundorue to Shrewsbury.
 12. Visit by rail, Berrington Church. Cressage Oak. Leighton Church, and Buildwas Abbey.
 13. *Wenlock Abbey*. Prior's House. Town Hall. Acton Round Church. Barrow Church.
 14. By rail to Easthope Station. Visit house at Plash. Langley Hall Gateway. The Ditches.
 15. Iron Bridge. Linley Church. Astley Abbot's Church. *Bridgnorth* Castle, Church, old houses.
 16. Morville Church. Aston Eyre Church. Upton Cressett Church. Quatford and Quat Churches.
 17. Claverley Church. Worfield Church. The Walls. Badger Church. Fatshull Church, continuing to Albrighton Station, where a train may be caught either to *Wolverhampton* or Shiffnall; the former, perhaps, will be most convenient.
 18. Return by train to Albrighton Station. See the Church, and Donnington Church; then visit White Ladies ruins and Boscobel. On return to *Shiffnall*, see Tonge Church.
 19. Shiffnall Church. Malins Lee Chapel. Wombridge Priory ruins. *Wellington*. Earthworks on the Wrekin.
 20. Lilleshall Abbey. Woodcote Church. Newport Church. Edgmond Church and Rectory. Eyton Church. Return by rail to *Shrewsbury*.
 21. Hanwood Church. Pontesbury Chapel and Camp. Minsterley Church. Caus Castle. Wattlesborough Castle; returning to Westbury Station, and thence to *Shrewsbury*.
 22. Battlefield Church. Albright Hussey. Moreton-Corbett, Hadnall, and Shawbury Churches.
 23. By rail to Baschurch Station. The Berth. Ruyton of the XI. Towns. Whittington Church and Castle. Park Hall. *Oswestry*.

Days.

24. Old Oswestry. Offa's Dyke. Ellesmere Church. Hanmer Church.
Whitchurch.
25. Wern Church. Edstaston Church. Hawkstone. Red Castle. Bury
Walls. Hodnet Church. *Market Drayton.*
26. Blore Heath. Muckleston Church. Stoke-upon-Tern Church. Ad-
derley Church. *Nantwich.* Enter Cheshire.

II.—CHESHIRE.

1. Nantwich Church and old houses. Acton Church, Dorfold Hall.
Combermere Abbey. Wrenbury Church.
2. *Crewe* Hall. Coppenthal Church. Haslington Hall. Wybunbury
Church. Barthomley Church. Lawton Church.
3. *Sandbach* Church. Inn. Crosses. Betchton Hall. Holmes Chapel
Church. Cotton Hall. Twemlow Hall. Blaokden Hall.
4. Somerford Booths. Swettenham Hall. Davenport Hall. Brereton
Hall and Church. Smethwick Hall. Great and Little Moreton
Halls. Astbury Church.
5. *Congleton*, old houses. Crossley. Gawsworth Church. Macclesfield
Church. Rivers Chapel. Prestbury Church.
6. Alderley Church. Bramhall. *Stockport* Church. Bank House. Har-
den Hall. Hyde Church. Dukinfield Hall.
7. Disley Church. Lyme Hall. Whalley Bridge. Roosdyche. *Taxal*
Church. Marple Hall. Chadkirk.
8. Mottram Church. Tintwistle. Melandra and Mouslow Castles.
9. Wythenshaw Hall. Baguley Hall. Dunham Massey Church. Bow-
don Church. Ashley Hall. Rostherne Church.
10. *Knutsford* old Church. Holford Hall. Mobberley Church. Toft
Hall and Church. Over Peover Church and Hall. Tabley Old
Hall.
11. *Northwich* Castle site. Budworth Church. Arley Chapel. Daven-
ham Church. Middlewich Church. Kinderton (Roman stat. of
Condate). Lea Hall. Vale Royal.
12. Merton Grange. Crowton Hall. Dutton Hall; or by omnibus from
Hartford Bridge to Delamere Forest, where examine Eddisbury Hill.
Tumuli. Kelsborough Castle. Tarvin Church. Sleep at *Chester*.
13. Examine *Chester*.
14. Rowton Heath. Hatton. Huxley Hall. Beeston Castle. Tarporley
Church. Bunbury Church. Sleep at Beeston.
15. Drive to Malpas, see Church. Cholmondeley Castle. Carden. Handley
Church. Calverley Hall. *Chester*.
16. Eccleston Church. Eaton Hall. Saughton Grange. Doglestone Church.
Kinnerton Hall. Plemstall Church.

Days.

17. Frodsham Church. Rock Savage. Halton Church and Castle. Norton Priory. Daresbury Chapel. *Warrington*.
18. Wilderspool (Veratium). Thelwall, Grappenhall, and Lymm Churches. East and West Leigh Halls and Chapel. *Warrington Church*.
19. By rail to Helsby. Ince Manor House. Site of Stanlaw Abbey. Thornton Hall and Church. Shotwick Church. Neston Church. *Birkenhead*.
20. Leasowe Castle. *Hoylake*.

III.—LANCASHIRE.

1. *Manchester*. Cathedral. High School. Old Houses. Chetham Hospital. Old halls in the neighbourhood.
2. Ashton under Lyne Church. Old Hall. Bestal. Old houses in the neighbourhood of Staley Bridge. Bucton Castle.
3. Middleton Church. Rectory. Chadderton Hall. *Rochdale Church*. Grammar School. Castleton Mound and Hill. Buckley Hall. Clegg Hall.
4. Healey Hall. Whitworth Church. Wolstenholme Hall. Chadwick Hall. Tyrone's Bed. Littleborough Church. Pike House. Steanor Bottom House. *Todmorden*.
7. Long Causeway. Roman road over Blackstone Edge. The Holme. Ormerod. Barcroft. Townley. Burnley.
8. Burnley Church. Extwistle Hall. Rowley. Colne Church. Barnside. Wycoller. Enmott Hall.
9. Padiham Church. Gawthorpe. Huntroyde. Walk over the hills to *Bacup*, visiting the Dikes.
10. *Bacup Church*. Ramsbottom. Nuttall Hall. Brandlesholme Hall. Bury Church. Radcliffe Tower. Redvales.
11. Bolton. Smithills Hall. Hall-i'-th'-Wood. Little Bolton. Turton Tower. Entwistle Hall.
12. *Blackburn Church*. Pleasington Hall. Samlesbury Hall. Hoghton Tower.
14. Ribchester Church. (Roman *Coccium*?) Stonyhurst. Mitton Church *Whalley*.
15. *Whalley Abbey*. Church. Wiswell Hall. Jeppe Knave's Grave. Salden.
16. *Clitheroe*. Church. Castle. Abbey. Mearley Hall. Horrocksford Hall. Waddington Hall. Clitheroe. Sawley Abbey. Downham.
17. *Bashall*. Browsholme. Whitewell. Longridge. Chipping Church. *Redscar*. *Preston*.
18. *Preston Church*. Walton Church. Penwortham Church. Lea Hall. Cottam. Kirkham Church. Lytham Church. Bispham Church.
19. *Blackpool*. Rossall Hill. Fleetwood. Return to Preston. Garstang Church. Greenhaigh Castle. *Lancaster*.

Days.

20. Church. Castle. Ashton Hall. Thurnham. Heysam Church and Oratory.
21. Quernmore Church. Caton. Hornby Church and Castle. Melling Church. Thurland Castle. Tunstall Church. Borwick Hall. Capernwray Hall.
22. *Grange*. Arnside Tower. Heslop Tower. Cartmel Church. Holker Hall. Chapel Island. *Ulverston* Church.
23. Swartmoor Hall. Bardsea Hall. Aldingham Church. Gleaston Castle. Urswick Church.
24. Dalton Church and Castle. *Furness* Abbey. Peel of Fouldrey.
25. Broughton Tower. Coniston Church. Hawkshead Church. Town Hall and Hall. *Ambleside*.
26. Bowness Church. Return by rail to *Preston*. Rufford Hall. Croston Hall. Gradwells. Eccleston Church.
27. Leyland Church. Euxton Hall. Standish Church. *Wigan*. Church. Old houses. Haigh Hall. Ince Hall. Old Halls between Golborne and Wigan.
28. Leigh Church. Kenyon Peel Hall. Wardley Hall. Kempnall Hall. Worsley Hall. Monk's Hall. Eccles Church. Sleep at *Manchester*.
29. Old halls on the banks of the Mersey. Flixton and Urmston Church. Shaw Hall. Urmston Hall. Newton old Hall. Castle Hill. Winwick Church.
30. Warrington Church. Wilderspool Station. Bewsey Hall. Cuerden Earthworks. Farnworth Church. Bold Hall. *St. Helen's*. Windleshaw Abbey.
31. Skelmersdale Church. Lathom. Burscough Priory. Ormskirk Church. Lydiate Chapel. Maghull Church. *Liverpool*.
32. Liverpool Churches. Ince Blundell. Huyton Church. Speke Hall. Hale Hall.

 IX. PEDESTRIAN TOURS.

I.—SHROPSHIRE.

Tour

1. From *Ludlow* by Richard's Castle, Croft Ambrey, Wigmore. Returning by Elton and Mary Knoll. About 17 m.
2. From *Ludlow* to Burrington and Downton, returning by Bromfield. 11 to 12 m.
3. From Ludlow over the Clew Hills to *Cleobury Mortimer*. 11 m. By going on to Oretton and Farlow, some 4 m. longer.
4. From Cleobury Mortimer to *Bridgnorth*, by Kinlet and Billingsley. 13 m.

Tour

5. From Bridgnorth to *Wenlock*, by Broseley. Ironbridge. Coalbrook Dale, and Buildwas. 11 m.
6. From *Wenlock* to *Craven Arms*, down Corvedale. About 20 m.
7. From *Craven Arms* to *Knighton* by rail. Walk on to *Clun*, *Bury Ditches*, and *Bishop's Castle*. 14 m.
8. From *Bishops' Castle* to *Hyssington*, *Corndon Mount*, *Shelve*, and *Minsterley*. 13 m.
9. From *Minsterley* to the *Stiperstones*, *Ratlinghope*, and over the *Longmynd* to *Church Stretton*. About 11 m.
10. From *Church Stretton* to *Caer Casadoc*, *Chatwall*, *Acton Burnell*, *Pitchford*, and *Berrington Stat.* 10 to 11 m.
11. *Shrewsbury* to *Battlefield*, *Albrighton Hussey*, *Haughmond Abbey*, *Uffington Hill*. 11 m.
12. By rail to *Middletown Stat.* Walk over the *Breiddens* to *Llandrinio*, *Llanymynach*, *Treflach*, and *Oswestry*. 12 to 13 m.
13. From *Oswestry* by *Frankton* to *Ellesmere*. 7 m. By rail from thence to *Wrenbury*. See *Combermere Abbey*, 6 m., and afterwards by rail to *Nantwich* and *Wellington*.
14. Ascend the *Wrekin*. 6 m. By rail to *Shiffnall*; then walk by *Tonge* and *Boscobel* to *Albrighton Stat.*, 9 m., whence take train to *Wolverhampton*.

 II.—CHESHIRE.

1. Start from *Whitchurch*. Walk to *Malpas* and *Broxton Jun.* 10 m. See *Carden*.
 2. From *Broxton*, over the *Peckforton Hills*, to *Beeston* and *Tarporley*. 9 m.
 3. From *Tarporley*, across *Delamere Forest*, to *Frodsham*. 11 to 12 m.
 4. From *Frodsham* to *Northwich*, 9 m.; or on to *Knutsford*, 15 m.
 5. From *Knutsford* to *Rostherne* and *Bowdon*, 8 m.; or from *Rostherne*, follow up the *Bollin* to *Wilmslow*, about 6 or 7 m. Sleep at *Alderley*.
 6. Over the *Edge* to *Macclesfield*. 6 m. Rail to *Congleton*, and see *Congleton Edge*. *Astbury* and *Moreton Hall*.
 7. Rail to *North Rod* *Stat.* Walk to *Broxton*, 14 m., by *Shutlingslow* and *Axe Edge*.
 8. *Broxton* to *Disley*, by *Goyts Bridge*. Taxal. *Whaley Bridge*. 10 to 11 m. Train to *Stockport*.
 11. *Stockport*, to *Marple* and *Glossop*. About 12 m.
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III.—LANCASHIRE.

Tour

1. From Glossop, to Bucton Castle and Mossley Stat. 8 m. By rail to *Rochdals*. Scenery of Rochdale.
 2. Rochdale, to Littleborough and Blackstone Edge, and thence to Todmorden. About 12 m.
 3. Explore Cliviger, and to *Burnley* by the Long Causeway.
 4. To Colne, over Boulsworth and Forest of Trawden. Back by rail to Burnley.
 5. From Burnley, over Rossendale Forest to Bacup; thence by rail to Ramsbottom. Walk over Holcombe Moor to Darwen Stat. About 7 or 8 miles. By rail to *Blackburn*.
 6. Blackburn to Ribchester, 7 m., and on by Hurst Green and Stonyhurst to *Whalley*.
 7. Whalley, by Sabden, and over Pendle Hill to Sawley Abbey, about 11 m. By rail from Chatburn to *Clitheroe*.
 8. Clitheroe to Whitewell, 9 m., and Lancaster, over the Trough of Bolland. The total distance is 25 or 26 m., and if too far, a halt can be made at Whitewell.
 9. Lancaster, by Quernmoor and Artle Beck, to *Hornby*. Thence by Tunstall and *Kirkby Lonsdale*, about 16 m.
 10. Kirkby Lonsdale across Hutton Roof Crag to Burton, and by Yealand Conyers to *Grange*. 15 m.
 11. Grange to Newby Bridge. Graythwaite and *Hawkshead*. About 15 m.
 12. Hawkshead to *Coniston*. Ascend the Old Man.
 13. Coniston, over Walna Scar, to Seathwaite, and descend the Duddon to *Broughton*.
 14. Broughton, to Dalton and *Furness Abbey*.
 15. Excursion round the Furness peninsula.
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HANDBOOK

FOR

SHROPSHIRE, CHESHIRE,

AND

LANCASHIRE.

ROUTES.

. The names of places are printed in *italics* only in those routes where the places are described.

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| 3 Ludlow to Wolverhampton, by the <i>Clee Hills and Bridgnorth</i> | 20 | 16 Buxton to Manchester, by <i>New Mills, Hyde, and Guide Bridge</i> | 99 |
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ROUTE 1.

FROM HEREFORD TO SHREWSBURY, BY LUDLOW AND CHURCH STRETTON.

(Hereford and Shrewsbury Railway.)

THE Hereford and Shrewsbury Railway, a joint line of the Great Western and London and North-Western Companies, quits Hereford by the Barr's Court Stat. (*Handbook for Herefordshire*), passes Leominster 13 m. and crosses the Shropshire border between the villages of Brimfield and (19 m.) WOOPER-TON JUNC., whence a branch is given off on rt. to Tenbury and Bewdley. The rly. now enters the fertile and beautifully-wooded valley of the Teme, which it crosses between the villages of Ashford Bowdler (rt. bank) and Ashford Carbonell (l. bank). On the l. bank are *Ashford Court* and *Ashford House* (Miss Hall). *Ashford Hall*, on rt. bank, is the seat of Sir. E. Russell. At the foot of Tinker's Hill, between

which and the river the line runs, is *Saltmoor Well*, a saline spring, which once afforded much benefit in scorbutic disorders, the water containing carbonate of iron, with sulphate of magnesia and muriate of soda. The well is now filled up. The line now follows the bend of the Teme, leaving the *Sheet* (the property of Mrs. Wheeler) to the rt. A beautiful view of the town of Ludlow is obtained before entering the tunnel, in which the church, castle, and rocks by the river side are prominent objects.

23½ m. *Ludlow* (*Hotels: Feathers; Angel; Titterstone House*, in Broadstreet, is a comfortable and reasonable boarding-house), "in Welsh Dinan and Llys-twyroc, that is, the Prince's Palace; 'tis seated upon a hill at the joining of the Teme with the river Corve: a town of greater beauty than antiquity."—*Camden*. Ludlow is indeed splendidly situated on an amphitheatre of high ground, formed by the winding stream of the Teme just at its junction with the Corve. From the highest portion, on which are the church and castle, the streets

descend on every side, and by their breadth and dignity bear evidence to its importance in the days when the county families of Shropshire thought it not unfashionable to spend the season within its precincts.

"The town doth stand most part upon a hill,
Built well and fayre, with streates both
longe and wide;
The houses such, where straungers lodge
at will,
As long as there the counsell lists abide.
Both fine and cleane the streates are all
throughout.
With condits cleere and wholesome water
springs;
And who that lists to walk the towne about
Shall find therein some rare and pleas-
sant things;
But chiefly there the ayre so sweete you
have
: As in no place ye can no better crave."
Churchyard.

The early history of the town is altogether identified with that of the *Castle*, which, since its erection in the 12th century, has been the scene of much stormy action. It was said to have been originally built by Roger de Montgomery, Earl of Shrewsbury, soon after the Conquest, but more probably by a De Lacy; and by the rebellion of its possessors against Henry I. it became a royal castle. In Stephen's time, the then governor joined the cause of Maud; and in the siege that followed it is said that the Scottish Prince, whom Stephen had brought as his hostage, was nearly drawn within the walls by an enormous iron hook. In Henry II.'s reign, the castle came into the possession of Joce de Dinan, into whose household the second Fulke FitzWarrene, son of the Lord of Whittington, was sent for education as a knight. A most romantic incident is recorded concerning Fulke, who was idling in the courtyard when the news came that Joce de Dinan had been attacked by Walter de Lacy, and was even then being overpowered in a hand-to-hand combat with him and 3 of his knights. Fulke, although too young to wear armour, seized a rusty helmet and

a great Danish axe, and, flinging himself on the back of a carhorse, spurred to the scene of action; here he laid about him with such vigour that he soon rescued Joce from his danger, and brought De Lacy in triumph as a prisoner. After this feat he married, a little later on, Hawyse, the daughter of Joce, and on the death of his father became Lord of Whittington. Ludlow castle subsequently became the residence of Edward IV. and his infant children, and, in Henry VII.'s reign, of his son, Arthur Prince of Wales, who died here in 1502, after his marriage with Catherine of Arragon. From that period it was considered as the peculiar property of the Princes of Wales or their deputies, the Lords President of Wales, who held here their Courts of the Marches with great dignity and splendour. "Also the 4 judges of the councill have their lodgings here, and they and the president dine together, their charges being borne by the king; they have their cooke and all their necessary attendants and keepe 4 termes every year, when all law suites are determined; they have within the said castell a prison, a bowlinge greene, a tennis court, and stable rooms for above 100 horses and quantitie of armes."—*Marmaduke Rawdon*. This lasted until 1688, when the office was abolished and the castle allowed to go to decay. But this intermediate period was the height of Ludlow's glory. Here Charles I. was entertained with much feasting and revelling, and here it was that 'Comus,' one of Milton's most beautiful creations, was written and acted in 1634, on the occasion of the appointment of the Earl of Bridgewater to the office of President of Wales. The incident that gave rise to it was as follows. Soon after the Earl of Bridgewater's arrival as Lord President, his sons Lord Brackley and Mr. Thomas Egerton, and his daughter, Lady Alice, were

benighted in Haywood Forest, and were for a short time lost altogether. On their reaching home Milton wrote his 'Masque of Comus,' which was then and there set to music by Thomas Lawes, who, with the heroes of the adventure, took the principal parts. Sir Henry Sydney, father of Sir Philip Sydney, was the last occupant of the castle previous to its being taken by the parliamentary force in 1646. Sir Henry was President of the Council of Wales from 1559 to 1581, and at the Restoration this office was conferred on the Earl of Carbery, under whose patronage Samuel Butler enjoyed the office of steward, and wrote, in a chamber over the gateway, the first portion of his 'Hudibras.'

From the eventful history of Ludlow, and the numerous people that tenanted it at various times, the *Castle*, as may readily be imagined, is of various dates in its style.

"An ancient seat, yet many buildings
newe
Lord President made, to give it greater
fame."

The ruins, as they stand at present, consist of a large base court or "outer bailey" encircled by walls, and are entered on the S. side by a gateway. To the l. as the visitor enters, is a range of buildings called the Stabling, of the date of Queen Ann. On the opposite side of the court is a tower now used as a Volunteer armoury, and to the l. of it is the old Court of Record for the Marches. The inner court, which is moated on the bailey side, is entered across a bridge of 2 arches, and by a gateway built by Sir Henry Sydney of Penshurst, who also added the Latin inscriptions over the gateway arch. At the N.W. of the court are the great tower and apartments, of the date of the founder in the 12th centy. Here, too, are the scanty remains of the circular chapel, said to be of very early date, which has a Norm. moulding on the outside, and is

entered by a Norm. doorway. The interior contains 14 blocked Norm. arcades. In Grose's time, the chapel was profusely decorated with armorial bearings on panels, and was connected by a covered way with the state apartments. On the E. side of the inner court is a suite of state apartments, said to have been built by Roger de Mortimer, paramour of the queen of Edward II. From a room at the S. end of this suite, a covered way is traditionally believed to have extended to Wigmore Castle, 8 m. distant. Near it is the window into which the Scottish prince was nearly drawn by the grapnel, and to the W. of this again is the Council Hall, where 'Comus' was performed, formerly entered by a flight of marble steps. There is some fine Dec. work in this hall, which is lighted by narrow trefoil-headed windows with transoms. The lower hall has an Elizabethan fireplace. Near the keep-tower is the well, now 85 ft. deep, but formerly 150 ft. It is fed by a spring in Whitecliffe woods, whence Sir H. Sidney laid a lead pipe. At the bottom of the keep is the dungeon, in which the prisoners were let down through an iron grating. The fore part of this apartment was once the chapel, and still contains some traces of Norm. arcades. Ascend the keep for the sake of the view, which is very charming. The interior of the courtyard is nicely kept, and is the head-quarters of the Archers of the Teme.

The *church*, dedicated to St. Lawrence, is one of the noblest parish churches in England. It is a fine Perp. building, with a lofty tower, which, from its own height and the elevation of the ground, is a very conspicuous landmark for miles around. It is cruciform, having nave, side aisles, choir, transepts, and side chapels, with the tower rising from the intersection. The date of erection is the 15th centy.,

but it is plain that a Norm. building existed previously, and that its extent was identical with that of the present nave. It is said that, when this ch. was enlarged, the "low" or mound which gave the town a portion of its name was levelled and bones discovered in it. These were stated by the clergy to be the bones of St. Brendan, with those of his father and mother. The ch. was then enlarged, and during the process of restoration, in 1860, by *G. G. Scott, Esq.*, the foundations of this old 12th-centy. ch., which preceded the present one, were discovered. The S. entrance is by a beautiful hexagonal embuttled porch, something like that of Redcliffe ch., Bristol. This was restored by Lord Boyne. The view from the W. door is very fine, embracing the nave and chancel arches, the lantern, 80 feet high, and the magnificent stained E. window. The nave is divided from the aisles by 6 pointed arches, springing from clustered pillars. The roof is of oak, ornamented with large gilt bosses, and that of the choir is illuminated with green and red. The choir is lighted by 5 Perp. windows, containing full-length figures of bishops and other ecclesiastics; but the chief glory of the ch. is the E. window, representing the martyrdom of St. Lawrence. It was originally the gift of Spofford, Bishop of Hereford 1421-1448, and, after undergoing great mutilation, was well restored, in 1828, by *Evans* of Shrewsbury. It occupies the whole breadth of the chancel, and is in 65 compartments, displaying the life, miracles, and martyrdom of the saint, including his being broiled on a gridiron. Notice the 7th compartment, in which the idols are represented as falling to pieces in his presence. Beneath the window is a beautiful carved stone reredos, restored by the last Lord Dunganon. Among the monuments in the choir are recumbent effigies of

Edm. Walter and his wife. He was Chief Justice of three shires in Wales, and one of the Council of the Marches in 1592. There are also monuments to Ambrosia Sidney, fourth daughter of the Rt. Hon. Sir H. Sidney, President of the Council, and to Lady Mary, his wife, daughter of the Duke of Northumberland, who died in Ludlow Castle, 1574. The canopies of the choir, of carved oak, are memorials of the Rev. J. Phillips, a former rector. To the S. of the altar are sedilia and a piscina; and on each side the chancel are stalls for the officiating priests of the adjoining chapel of St. John. This is N. of the choir, and is entered from the transept by a carved screen. It contains some old glass in rather a fragmentary condition, and the tombs of Sir John Brydgeman, chief justice of Cheshire, and his wife. He was the last President but one of the Court of the Marches. They are conjectured to have been the work of *Fanelli*, who was much employed in England during the reign of Charles I. The S. chapel also contains a little antique glass, representing a genealogical history of the Prophets. In the N. transept is a fine organ by *Schweuser*, and in the S. transept is a recumbent monument to Dame Mary Eyre, wife of Lord Eyre, President of the Marches. The W. seven-light window (by *Willement*) is modern, and is filled with mediæval figures of persons connected with the history of Ludlow, such as Richard, Duke of York; Edward IV.; Arthur, Prince of Wales; Montgomerie, Fitzwarine, Joce de Dinan, &c. The colouring of the dresses is particularly rich. Notice the curious manner in which the W. doorway interrupts the window.

The ch.-yd., which is supported on the N. by a portion of the old wall, is beautifully kept and planted, and commands a noble view up the vales

6 *Route 1.—Ludlow: Timbered Houses; Museum. SHROPSHIRE.*

of the Corve and Onny, with the Titterstone and Brown Cleve Hills on the E. Within its precincts is a fine old timbered house, of the date of the 17th centy., as testified by the inscription on it of "A.D. 1616, Thomas Kaye." It is the official residence of the Reader, who, however, does not occupy it. On the opposite side is the *Hosier Almshouse*, for old widows and widowers, erected in 1486.

The *Lane Asylum* is another timbered house, date 1672. It was built from moneys left by the Ludford family, and is still kept up partly from this fund and partly by subscription.

A coach-house near the castle was formerly the chancel of an *old chapel*, known as the College, and still contains moulded ribs of the date of the 12th centy. The *Grammar School* is the oldest in the county, and was founded by the Palmer's Guild, to whom the town owes the church and other charities. The charter of this guild was given by Edward I.; but when it was dissolved in the reign of Edward VI., all its charities were given to the town and vested in the corporation. Amongst other old buildings, is the Bull Inn, containing some good panelling; also the Feathers Hotel, a quaint, old-fashioned hostelry. Of the 7 gates by which Ludlow was formerly entered, only one is left, about half-way down Broad-st., on the road to Ludford. At the top of Broad-st. is the *Cross*, a building now appropriated to a free school. Ludlow also contained an establishment for Austin friars, 1282, and one for Carmelite friars.

The *Museum*, adjoining the Assembly Rooms, is remarkably interesting, and contains an unusually fine collection of fossils, principally of the Silurian rocks in the neighbourhood, which have been thoroughly investigated by the local geologists and

the Woolhope Natural History Society. The visitor will find very good specimens of Old Red fishes, including *Pteraspis* and *Eurypterus*. There are also some antiquities from Uriconium, and some MSS. belonging to the old Ludlow guilds of the Hammermen and Stitchers' Companies, with the money-boxes in which their contributions were placed. Amongst the natives of Ludlow was Mr. Thomas Johnes, of Hafod, who flourished in the last centy., and was the translator of Froissart's 'Chronicles.'

Immediately across the river Teme, which here separates Shropshire from a small nook and corner of Herefordshire, is the House of *Ludford*, the old-fashioned seat of the Charltons (Mrs. Tarratt), which formed part of the Hospital of St. John in the 13th centy., founded by a burghess of Ludlow named Peter Undergood. It was granted to the Earl of Warwick, of whom it was purchased by Mr. Fox, M.P., Secretary to the Council of the Marches, and by his family sold, in 1667, to the Charltons, a branch of the family of Apley Castle, near Wellington. Of this ancient family were Sir Robert Charlton, who suffered much by his loyalty to Charles I.; Sir Job Charlton, Speaker in 1685 and a Judge of the Common Pleas, who entertained James II. here in great state in 1687, and was by that monarch created a baronet, a title which became extinct in 1784. Sir Job founded a hospital here in 1672 for poor persons. The *ch.* contains his effigy, reclining in his judicial robes; and there are other noticeable tablets. The *bridge* which connects the two counties is very ancient, and is mentioned by Leland. "There be three fayre arches in this bridge over Teme, and a pretty chapel upon it of St. Catherine. It is about a hundred years since this bridge was built; men passed afore by a ford a little beneath."

The geology of the Ludlow district is especially interesting, but it will be sufficient here to direct the attention to the salient points, of which details are given in the *Introduction* (page viii).

At Ludford are displayed "the upper beds, forming the downward passage from the Old Red system; yellowish sandstones, of a very fine grain and slightly micaceous. The central part of the stratum is a battered mass of scales, ichthyodolites, jaws, teeth, and coprolites of fishes. These, together with a few smaller testacea, are united by a gingerbread coloured cement. Many of the imbedded fragments are of a jet-black polish, others of a deep mahogany hue."—*Sturlia*.

The cliffs on the W. side of the Teme are remarkably fine and precipitous, the ground on the summit of Whitecliffe being laid out with pleasant walks and seats.

Railways.—To Hereford, 23 m.; Church Stretton, 15 m.; Shrewsbury, 28 m.

Distances.—Bewdley, 18½ m.; Tenbury 10 m. (by Wooferton); Caynham, 3 m.; Whitton, 5½ m.; Cleehills, 6 m.; Bitterley, 4 m.; Ludford, ½ m.; Downton, 5 m.; Leintwardine, 8 m.; Clungunford, 9 m.; Wigmore, 8 m.; Stokesay Castle, 6 m.

Excursions.—*a.* To Wigmore, returning by Croft Ambrey and Richard's Castle. *β.* To Downton and Leintwardine. *γ.* By Onibury to Stokesay, by rail (Rte. 1). *δ.* By Bitterley to Cleehills, returning by Caynham (Rte. 3). *ε.* To Tenbury by rail (Wooferton Junct.), (Rte. 2).

a. The greatest portion of this excursion lies in Herefordshire. Cross the Teme to Ludford, and turn to the rt., up the Whitecliff Road, which ascends the beautiful hill of *Mary Knoll*, or *St. Mary's Knoll*, because a devotional figure of the Virgin

stood near here for the benefit of travellers. The first portion may be shortened by going through the park along the cliffs. At the summit of *Mary Knoll*, the road descends into the valley between Bringewood Chase on rt., and Vinnals Hill on l.: the latter a very beautiful eminence, ornamented with a profusion of timber. There is a splendid view from the top.

4½ m. At *Aston* are some tumuli. The *ch.* is a good specimen of Anglo-Norm.; the round arch, separating nave and chancel, and the tympanum are ornamented.

5 m. *Elton*, and *Elton Hall* (Mrs. Salwey). The *ch.* has a lion and unicorn of Elizabethan date.

1½ m. to rt. is *Burrington* on the Teme, where the geologist will find beautiful specimens of *Calymene Blumenbachii*. The *ch.* contains some cast iron tablets to the Knight family.

6½ m. *Leinthall Starks*. Notice here the fine old yew-trees in ch-yd. The largest measures 20½ ft. at 5 ft. from the ground. Tradition states that the bell of *Leinthall ch.* was formerly hung on one of the branches.

8 m. *Wigmore*, a decayed town, once the abode of the warlike Mortimers. The castle of this family, which occupies such a distinguished place in the annals of English history, and which ultimately obtained the Crown in the person of Edward IV., is now a complete ruin at the end of the village; but the remains are sufficient to show the strength and importance of this once princely residence. The outward wall is the most perfect, though of this a very considerable part is destroyed. Within the area, on a high artificial hill, are the remains of the keep, chiefly consisting of massive fragments overlooking the country to the N. and E. When the original fortress was founded is unknown; but there was certainly a castle here before the time of Edward the Elder, who is recorded to have repaired

Wigmore. "It is impossible to contemplate the massive ruins of Wigmore Castle, situate on a hill in an amphitheatre of mountains, whence its owner could survey his vast estates, from his square palace with 4 corner towers, on a keep at the S.W. corner of his double-trenched outworks, without reflecting on the instability of the grandeur of a family whose ambition and intrigues made more than one English monarch uneasy on his throne; yet not a memorial remains of their sepulture."—*Camden*.

Their immense estates continued part of the Royal domain until the 17th centy., when Wigmore and a large tract of the surrounding country was granted to the Harleys, of whom the Lord Treasurer, on his elevation to the peerage, was created Earl of Oxford, Earl Mortimer, and Baron Harley of Wigmore.

The church, formerly attached to the wealthy abbey, founded 1179 for monks of the order of St. Austin, is a rude Romanesque building, with Dec. additions, standing on the pinnacle of a hill, close to a precipice, whose chasms are filled by large trees. It exhibits some herring-bone masonry and has a good Dec. roof, with curious stall wood-work inside.

Should the tourist wish, he can proceed to the *Hopton Heath Stat.* of the Central Wales Rly., passing through Leintwardine, and 2 m. to the N. of Wigmore Castle, and the remains of *Wigmore Abbey and Grange*, the latter having been the old barn of the monastery.

2½ m. to the S.E. of Wigmore, overlooking the village of Leinthall Earl's, is the escarpment and ancient British fortress of *Croft Ambrey*, of an elliptical form, with a double ditch and rampart, and named after Ambrosius, a celebrated British hero. "The magnificent fortresses of Croft Ambrey and Wapley, scarcely 7 m. asunder, are undoubtedly British

erections. These are the most southern of Caractacus' interior line of camps, which commences in the N. at Hên Dinaa."—*Sal. Ant.* On the southern slopes of the Ambrey is *Croft Castle*, the beautiful residence of the Rev. W. Kevill Davies, and the seat of the ancient family of Croft from the days of Edward the Confessor to the reign of George III., when it was sold by Sir H. Croft to Mr. Johnes, who made this picturesque spot his residence before he lavished his wealth on Hafod. Sir John Croft, who married a daughter of Owain Glyndwr,—Sir Jas. Croft, a distinguished soldier in the reigns of Mary and Elizabeth, condemned for a participation in Wyatt's rebellion, but pardoned by Elizabeth and afterwards entrusted by her with very important offices,—and Herbert Croft, Bishop of Hereford 1661-91, were each proprietors of this estate.

The park is celebrated for its beautiful timber, and from its higher elevations commands most extensive views.

About 2½ m. from Croft Ambrey the high road from Leominster to Ludlow is joined at *Orleton*, 5 m. from Ludlow. This was the birth-place of Adam de Orleton, Bishop of Hereford 1317-27, one of the most active agents of the barons in their wars against Edward II. When application was made to him by the governors of Berkeley in reference to the murder of the king, he is said to have returned this oracular reply:—

"*Edvardem occidere nolite timere bonum est.*"

Having gained the favour of Edward III. so far as to be employed as ambassador to France, he was translated to Winchester diocese, where he died 1345. Thomas Blount, author of '*Jocular Tenures*,' a '*Law Dictionary*,' and other works, was a native of this parish, and died here 1679. His descendants still possess his estates. From Orleton the tourist may proceed to *WOOLFERTON JUNC.*

Stat., and by rail to Ludlow, or else proceed by road $1\frac{1}{2}$ m. to *Richard's Castle*, where the county of Salop is re-entered.

1 m. to the l., in a pretty dingle under the *Vignals*, are the ruins of the *Castle*, erected in the reign of Edward the Confessor, probably by Richard Scroope or Scrupe. Some part of the keep and walls still remain, yet so concealed by the luxuriant wood about them as scarcely to be discovered until they are nearly approached. Upon the eminence near the castle a body of Royalists, under Sir T. Rundesford, was defeated in 1645 by an inferior force, commanded by Col. Birch.

Underneath the castle is a *Bonewell*. "Beneath this castle, Nature, which nowhere disporteth itself more in stirring wonders than in waters, hath brought forth a pretty well, which is always full of little fish-bones, or as some think of small frog-bones, although they be from time to time drawn quite out of it whence it is called Bonewell."—*Camden*.

Drayton also notices it:—

"With strange and sundry tales
Of all their wondrous things: and not the least
of Wales
Of that prodigious spring (his wondering as
he past)
That little fishes bones continually doth cast."
—7th Book.

This phenomenon is explained by Sir R. Murchison. "It results from the usual sloping position of the Ludlow Rocks, which, whilst it desiccates the higher parts of the ridges, tends to produce natural springs near the foot of these inclined planes, wherever the strata are affected by faults near the junction of the rock and old red sandstone. The faults, however, act here particularly as dams to the water, and occasion springs."

The *church*, a fine old structure adjoining the castle, has some beautiful painted glass.

Immediately under the crest of the *Vignals* is *Hay Park*, a richly-

wooded valley of 1500 acres, rendered memorable as the scene of Milton's 'Comus,' where the Earl of Bridgewater's children were benighted as they were on their way—

"to attend their father's state
And new entrusted sceptre."

The small stream which runs through it is called the "Sunny Gutter," where—

"Fairies at bottom trip
By dimpled brook and fountain trim."

The pedestrian should not omit ascending the *Vignals*, or *Vignolles*, from the summit of which the panoramic view is very extensive, embracing most of the Shropshire and Radnorshire hills.

1 m. from Richard's Castle (on rt.) is *Moor Park* (J. Salwey, Esq.), purchased from the Lyttletons in 1650, by Richard Salwey, a Major in the Parliamentary army, ambassador to Constantinople 1654, and M.P. from 1650-60, with whose descendants it still continues. (*Handbook for Herefordshire*.)

From hence it is 2 m. to Ludlow.

β. To Downton and Leintwardine the Wigmore road is followed over Mary Knoll to within 1 m. of Aston; then turn to the rt. over Burrington Common and cross the Teme at Bow Bridge to the village of *Downton*, beautifully situated on the l. bank of the Teme, which here serpentine through a most picturesque glen. There is a camp immediately opposite the bridge.

About $1\frac{1}{2}$ m. higher up the glen, and 6 m. from Ludlow, is *Downton Castle* (A. R. Boughton Knight, Esq.), erected 1774-8 by the celebrated scholar, Richard Payne Knight, and subsequently the seat of his brother, Andrew Knight, to whom the horticulture of England is so largely indebted. The castle stands on an elevated bank, surrounded by an extensive amphitheatre of wood, admitting occasional peeps over a varied and beautiful country. The building is composed of

a micaceous sandstone, raised on the estate, and is ornamented with Gothic towers and battlements without, and with Grecian ceilings, colours, and entablatures within—a singularity of formation which entailed much severe criticism on the taste of the classic owner. In a subsequent publication, 'An Analytical Enquiry into the Principles of Taste,' he observed, "that though his example had not been much followed, he had every reason to congratulate himself upon the success of the experiment, he having at once the advantage of a picturesque object and of an elegant and convenient building, though less perfect in both respects than if he had executed it at a maturer age. It has, moreover, the advantage of receiving alterations and additions in almost every direction, without any injury to its genuine and original character." The castle has been somewhat altered by the present owner, who has substituted stone mullions for the sash windows. The interior is fitted up with great taste, and there is a well-selected gallery of pictures, by eminent masters, the most important of which are:—

The Cradle Picture (from the Orleans Gallery).—*Rembrandt*. The Assassin, or Rembrandt's Cook.—*Rembrandt*. The Holy Family.—*Rembrandt*. A Horse.—*Vandyck*. Dog and Cat. Cock and Hen.—Both by *Snyders*. Head of Grotius.—*Eubens*. Three Landscapes.—*A. and P. Wouermans*. Ruth and Boaz.—*Teniers*. Woman Spinning.—*G. Dow*. Landscape with Sunset, and Cattle Drinking.—*A. Pynaker*. Rape of the Sabines.—*Elsheimer*. Landscape.—*Titian*. Diana visiting the Tomb of Endymion.—*Titian*. Portrait of a Lady of the Malaperi Family.—*Giorgione*. Portrait of Cardinal Bernardo di Divitio.—*Raphael*. Adoration of Shepherds.—*A. Mantegna*. Time admonishing Beauty.—*Domenichino*. Landscape.—*Claude*. Portrait of Cistercian Monk.—*Spagnoletto*.

The course of the Teme through the grounds, a length of 3 m., is surpassed in the beauty and wildness of its scenery by very few villages in England.

"The best approach to every beautiful scene is when it's least expected or foreseen; Where nought occurs to anticipate surprise Or bring the landscape piecemeal to the eyes."—*R. P. Knight*.

The rustic bridge at the Hay Mill has almost a Swiss character. On the banks of the Teme, below the castle, are the remains of an iron forge, from which large fortunes were derived by the grandfather of Mr. Payne Knight and his partner Mr. Walker. The ore was in those days conveyed by horses and mules from Staffordshire to be smelted in the timber-abounding district of Downton.

From hence the tourist may either follow the road to Ludlow by Oakley Park and Bromfield, or proceed to *Hopton Heath Stat.*, passing through 2½ m. *Leintwardine*, a well-built village, pleasantly situated at the junction of the Teme with the Clun. The Red Lion is a comfortable *Inn*, much praised by anglers who frequent this spot for trout and grayling fishing. Tickets for the preserved waters are obtained from the landlord of the inn, on payment of a small fee, which goes to the club fund.

The Perp. church, restored in 1865, is a handsome building, consisting of a lofty nave, with clerestory, aisles, chancel, and good sedilia. The steeple is over the S. porch. The font is of earlier date. In the chancel is a monument to Gen. Sir B. Tarleton, M.P. for Liverpool, 1790-1812. The reeredos was much admired by Mr. Blore.

From Ludlow the rly. continues its course, in a N.W. direction, up the vale of the Teme for a short distance, and then up that of the Onny. A mineral branch to Clew Hill is given off on the rt. immediately after leaving the station, and the Corve is

crossed close to its junction with the Teme.

26 m. (from Hereford) is *Bromfield Stat.*, the Ludlow race-course being hard by on rt. The village is to the l., and contains an interesting ch. belonging to the ancient *Priory of Bromfield*. It consists of E. Eng. nave with N. aisle, and a tower at the W. end of the aisle, its lower portion forming a porch. At the E. and N. of the chancel are two large plain Norman blocked arches, showing apparently that the ch. was once cruciform. On the S. side of the ch. are some domestic buildings, probably remnants of a house built out of the conventual erection. There is also an arched gateway remaining. Bromfield was a Benedictine monastery, founded early in the 12th cent., and was annexed to the Abbey of St. Peter's, at Gloucester, in 1155. Close to the village is

Oakley Park (Baron Windsor, whose father's family has been seated here since the reign of Henry II.). In the interior of the house, which is beautifully situated, overlooking the Teme, is a gallery, supporting an entablature, the frieze of which is taken from the Phygalian marbles discovered by Mr. Cockerell. The park is splendidly wooded, and contains some oaks known as "the Druidical Oaks." There is also much fine ornamental timber, including Spanish chesnut, silver spruce firs, *Pinus cembra*, *P. Douglasii*, *Wellingtonia gigantea*, &c.

Nearly 1 m. rt. of the stat., on the border of the Corve, is *Staunton Lacey*. The ch. is cruciform, and is supposed to be earlier than the Conquest. In the nave and N. transept is Romanesque work, marked by pilaster steps—and the chancel is E. Eng. "Here are some very important Dec. alterations. From the lantern arches being of that date, while the upper part of the tower is E. Eng., we may infer that the upper part was

an addition to the Romanesque structure, and that it was afterwards underpinned and the Dec. arches inserted. At the same time a S. aisle was added to the nave, and other alterations made in detail."—*Camb. Arch. Journ.* The ch. has been restored, and possesses a handsome reredos, a pulpit of Caen stone, and a stained-glass window by *Evans*.

28 m. At *Onibury Stat.* the dale becomes contracted and very prettily wooded to

31 m. *Craven Arms Junc.*, where the Central Wales, the Bishops Castle, and the Wenlock rlys. join the main line (Rte. 6). On the hill to the l. is *Sibdon Castle*, the seat of J. Baxter, Esq. The antiquary must retrace his steps for $1\frac{1}{2}$ m. to the fine old castle of *Stokesay*, which is a striking object on the rt. of the rly. This is one of the finest examples in England of a castellated mansion of the 13th cent.—a record existing, in 1291, of "permission given to Lawrence de Ludlow to crenellate his castle of Stokesay." The courtyard is of an irregularly oblong form, and once contained a covered well, now destroyed. On the W. side, opposite the fine old timber gate-tower, is the house, the tower at the S. end of which is connected by a passago with the centre of the main building, formed by the hall. The tower is an irregular polygon of three stories, lighted by lancet windows, and surmounted by a battlemented parapet. In the lower story the openings of the windows are placed obliquely, so as to prevent the assailants shooting their arrows inside. The hall is 51 ft. by 31 ft., and lighted on the W. by four large windows looking over the moat. It has a fine open-work timber roof, resting on large upright stone corbels with E. E. mouldings. At the S. end a square trefoil-

headed doorway leads to the lower apartments of this wing. The principal apartment, which is over the cellar and in the N. wing, has a good 16th-century fireplace, and is lighted by a large window corresponding to one in the hall. Adjoining the hall is the cellar, from which a tower with very thick walls projects over the moat. There is a fine gate-tower of timber, the upper story projecting over the lower, and adorned with rather grotesque carvings. The tower and hall are partly in ruins and partly used for farm offices. From the nature of the buildings and the position, Stokesay was evidently not intended for an offensive fortress, but merely for a strong domestic residence. The history of Stokesay is not very important. From the De Ludlows it came into the possession of the Vernons of Haddon Hall, and then to the Earls of Craven. During the Civil War it was garrisoned for the king, but surrendered to the Parliamentarians after a short siege. On the brow of the wooded hill to the E. is a large rectangular earthwork, known as *Norton Camp*. There are also traces of defensive works on the other side the valley at Yeo or *View Edge*.

Craven Arms, now an important railway junction, is a roadside inn, placed at the junction of the Shrewsbury, Ludlow, and Knighton roads. It is, however, a convenient halting-place for the geologist, or the tourist, who wishes to explore Corvedale, Apedale, or the scenery of Wenlock Edge. The botanist will find in this neighbourhood *Lathræa squamaria* (Norton Camp), *Myrrhis odorata* (Stokesay), *Epipactis grandiflora*, *Paris quadrifolia*, *Polygonum viviparum*, *Astrantia major* (Stoke Wood).

At the village of Wistanstow, a little further on, the branch to Much Wenlock is given off on rt.

(Rte. 6). *Wistanstow Hall* (W. Phillips, Esq.).

At 35½ m. *Marshbrook Stat.*, the valley begins to close in again.

On rt., 1 m., is *Acton Scott Ch.* and *Hall* (Mrs. Stackhouse Acton).

The wooded banks on each side the rly. soon give place to a more open valley bounded by lofty hills, the culminating points of which are seen to great advantage at

38 m. *Church Stretton Stat.* (*Hotel: Church Stretton, good*). This is a most picturesque little spot, lying directly under and on the slopes of the steep sides of the *Longmynd*, which, with its deep gullies and cross valleys, forms the most important range of mountains in Shropshire, rising to the height of from 1400 to 1600 ft. Immediately opposite are the hills of Ragleth, Hope Bowdler, Cæwr Caradoc, and the Lawley, all nearly as high, but more broken in their outline. These chains of eminences afford to the lover of scenery ample reasons for making Church Stretton his head-quarters—though it is principally to the geologist that the neighbourhood is so deeply interesting. Speaking of the Longmynd, Sir Roderick Murchison says, "This semi-mountainous mass is found to be composed of the most ancient recognizable sediments of the British Isles. Ranging from N.N.E. to S.S.W., they stand boldly out from beneath the surrounding Silurian deposits, of which they form the mineral axis. The lowest strata of the Longmynd, or those forming the base of their eastern escarpment, range along the western side of the Stretton valley. The whole of the series can be well observed, together with the order of superposition, along the banks of the small brook which descends by the Carding-mill to Church Stretton, and in other parallel transverse gullies. Quartz veins occur here and there—but, on the whole, these strata consist

of sandstone rock, both schistose and gritty, and often finely laminated, in which the lines of deposit, and even the rippled surfaces of the beds, are distinctly visible—the mass being scarcely affected by any slaty cleavage."

For many years the beds of the Longmynd were believed to be utterly unfossiliferous, but Mr. Salter eventually found in them traces of fuci, some annelid or worm-tubes, and a portion of a trilobite, named *Palæopyge*. On the west flanks of the Longmynd, which extends into Montgomeryshire, is a very symmetrical ascending order of strata from the Cambrian rocks into those of the Lower Silurian; but on the E. or Church Stretton side there is a great fault estimated by Professor Ramsay at not less than 2000 ft., the place of the intervening strata being taken by igneous rocks. We find, therefore, that the Caradoc range, as it is called, consists of igneous and altered rocks, for the eruption, having taken place after the deposition of the sediments, has altered the schists into clay slates, and the sandstones into quartz rock. The only portion which has escaped the effects of this fault, is a small patch of Upper Silurian, or Wenlock limestone, that occurs at Botville, a little higher-up the valley, and is curiously wedged between the Cambrian rocks of the Longmynd and those of the Caradoc group. The views from the summit of the Caradoc hills are very charming, ranging to the E. over the Wenlock Edge and the intervening valley of Ape-dale. To the N. the rounded boss of the Wrekin rises grandly up, and westward the view is bounded by the Longmynd range. This range also furnishes numbers of beautiful excursions, and particularly one to the village of *Ratlinghope*, between 5 and 6 m. distant, the road lying up the gully known as the Devil's Mouth and then crossing the top of

the hill at the *Portway*. This was an ancient British track leading from Castle Hill, near Lebotwood, to Billing's Hill, an entrenchment near Bishop's Castle. "A perambulation of this part of the forest, made in 1278, relating especially to Lydbury North, speaks of the king's highway on 'Longemunde,' which, no doubt, means the Portway."—*Wright*. Although the Longmynd range does not offer any very arduous task to the ordinary mountaineer, it has a reputation for being somewhat dangerous at times in consequence of fogs and the precipitous character of the passes. "The last fair in the year held at Church Stretton is popularly distinguished by the rather significant name of 'Dead Man's Fair,' on account, it is said, of the number of men who, after attending it, have perished in the attempt to return home over the hills in the dark nights of early winter." In 1865, the Rev. D. Carr, of Ratlinghope, nearly lost his life in a snowstorm, having been 24 hours on the hill. There are numerous camps and earthworks in the neighbourhood. They are to be found on the summit of Caer Caradoc, where are very perfect ditches 5 to 6 ft. deep; at *Brockhurst*, 1 m. below Church Stretton, and at *Bodbury Ring*, on the shoulder of the hill above—the latter a fortified British station, 47 paces from W. to E., and 95 paces from N. to S. The *Castle Ring*, above Ratlinghope, is oval, and encircled by one ditch only, the general height of the vallum being about 10 ft. The Watling St. also runs up the valley in its course from Kenchester (*Magna*) to Wroxeter (*Vr-icornium*). The name of Stretton betokens its proximity. Church Stretton itself is a straggling little place, with the *ch.*, an old square-towered building, in the centre. It is cruciform, with an image of St. Lawrence in the E. angle of the

tower. The doorway is of Norm. date. In the interior is a carved oak figure of Christ and an E. window: subjects, St. Stephen, St. Peter, and St. John. The grounds and gardens of the Rectory are charmingly wooded, and abound in beautiful walks on the slopes of the hill. At Church Stretton was born Dr. Roger Mainwaring, chaplain to Charles I. and Bp. of St. David's. It is a charming walk of 2 m. to *Hope Bowdler*, the ch. of which has been well restored; to *All Stretton*, about 2 m. N., situated at the entrance to one of the gullies or "gutters;" or to *Hordeley*, at the S.W. end of the Longmynd, where the scenery is most picturesque.

Distances.—Shrewsbury, 13 m.; Hereford, 38; Craven Arms, 7; Stokosay, 8; Ratlinghope, 6; Hope Bowdler, 2; Cardington, 4.

At Church Stretton the watershed is crossed, and the stream runs N.

At 4½ m. *Lebotwood Stat.*, occasional glimpses of a deserted coal-pit show that the tourist is traversing the Shrewsbury coal-field. (*Introduction*, p. viii.) Near Lebotwood is the *Castle Hill*, believed by Mr. Hartshorne to have been an exploratory mound. It is 40 ft. above the plain, and 265 ft. in length. It was connected by the Portway with Billing's Hill, near Bishop's Castle.

[1 m. from Lebotwood, on rt., is *Longnor Hall* (Col. Corbett), and 5 m. to E. of that is *Acton Burnell*, the seat of Sir C. F. Smythe, Bart., whose ancestry have held it from Charles II.'s time, when Sir Edward Smythe, Knt., of Durham, married the heiress of Sir Richard Lee, of Acton Burnell. The house is a fine Grecian building of white stone, overlooking a beautifully wooded park and the distant hills of the Lawley and the Wrekin. Near the house are the ruins of the ancient castle of Acton Burnell, of the date

of the latter part of the 13th centy., with geometrical tracery in the windows and mouldings of somewhat later Dec. style. Mr. Parker points out the great resemblance between Acton Burnell and the Bishop's Palace at Wells, both by the same builder. In shape it is a parallelogram, having a small square tower at each angle. The walls are very thick, and on the W. are lighted by small square windows. On the N. side is the hall, occupying an upper story, and lighted by three large transomed windows. The upper part of the S. side has been roofed over for a barn, but, in Mr. Parker's opinion, the private chapel would have stood here. The principal front and entrance are on the E. "Here it was that, when King Edward I. held his Parliament in 1283, the nobles were assembled, while the Commons sat in a large barn hard by. The memory of this event still lives in the statutes passed here, properly called 'Statutum de Mercatoribus,' but more particularly known as the Statute of Acton Burnell. It provided that debtors in London, York, and Bristol, should appear before the different Mayors and agree upon a certain day of payment, otherwise an execution might be issued against their goods." — *Burke*. Only a couple of gables are left of the old Parliament House, which must have been the scene of the gathering, as the castle was not commenced until the year after.

The founder of the castle and estate was Sir Robert Burnell, Bishop of Bath and Wells, and Chancellor of England, 1292. From his experience as a diplomatist, he was much employed by Edward I. (whose tutor he formerly was) in the affairs of the Welsh Marches. The family of the Burnells seems to have died out in the 15th centy., and the property came to the Lovells, by one of whom it was forfeited on

account of his loyalty to Richard III. It then fell to the Crown, and was granted by Henry VIII. to the Earl of Surrey, of Flodden renown. In the ch., which adjoins the house, is a brass and effigy to Nicholas de Handlo, who assumed the name and married the heiress of the Burnells in 1360. About 1½ m. W. of Acton Burnell is the village of *Frodesley*, which possesses one of the oldest parish registers in Shropshire, commencing March 25, 1547. Frodesley Hall is an Elizabethan building, dated 1594. The late Sir Herbert Edwardes, of Mooltan celebrity, was born at the Rectory.

From Acton Burnell the visitor may join the Severn Valley Rly. at *Cound Stat.*, 4 m. distant.

2 m. to the N. of Acton Burnell is *Pitchford* village, which derives its name from a natural bituminous spring. Marmaduke Rawdon of Yorke, in his tour (17th centy.), mentions it. "Thir is in this well four little hooles, about halfe a yard diep, out of which comes little lumps of pitch, but that which is att the tope of the well is softish, and swimes upon the water like tarr, but being skimd together itt incorporates and is knead together like soft wax and becomes hard. Of this pitch they brought some home with them, which the inhabitants say is more medicinall then other pitch. In the Holy Land there are some springs that cast up a bitumus stuffe like this." The *Hall* is the residence of J. Cotes, Esq., who acquired it by marriage with the heiress of the Earl of Liverpool, and is a very curious and picturesque old house of timber and plaster-work, built at the commencement of the 16th centy. by William Otley, Sheriff of the county. Her Majesty, when Princess Victoria, and the Duchess of Kent, stayed here with the Earl of Liverpool in 1832. The ch. contains an oak figure

of a Crusader, supposed to be the effigy of one of the De Pychfords. There is a lime-tree, which for centuries has been used as a habitation].

A little before reaching *Dorrington Stat.*, 4½ m. on l. of the line, is *Netley Hall* (T. H. Hope-Edwardes, Esq.) The rly. now runs parallel with the Cound Brook to 4½ m. *Condover Stat.*

1½ m. rt. is *Condover Park* (M. Cholmondeley, Esq.), formerly the seat of the Owens, whose ancestor, Thomas Owen, a Judge of Common Pleas, purchased it in the reign of Elizabeth. He also built the house, a fine Elizabethan mansion, on the banks of the Cound Brook. The ch. has a N. transept with E. Norm. windows and buttresses, and contains monuments to the Owen family, and one in particular by *Roubilliac* to Roger Owen, 1717.

To the l. of the rly. is *Lyth Hill*, on the other side of which is *Lythwood Hall* (— Scott, Esq.). From Shrewsbury records we find that Lythwood was a royal forest, Henry III. having granted a charter "to the lessees of the Hospital of St. Giles without Shrewsbury, that they have a horse-load of dried wood, out of his wood of Linewood, for firing." The present Lythwood Hall was built by a Mr. Blakeway with a prize of 20,000*l.* which he won in a lottery in the last century. But the money soon went, and the property had to change hands. On the rt. of the rly. is *Bomer Pool*, a considerable sheet of water, on which grows *Scheuchzeria palustris*, a rare plant, and *Vaccinium ozyccocos*.

At *Coleham*, where the Locomotive Department of the Railway Company is maintained, a junction is formed with the Welchpool and the Severn Valley Rly., and directly afterwards with the Great Western from Wellington. The line now crosses the Severn and enters the general stat. of *Shrewsbury*, 51 m. (Rte. 8.)

ROUTE 2.

FROM LUDLOW TO BEWDLEY, BY
WOOFERTON JUNCTION, TEN-
BURY, AND CLEOBURY MORTIMER.

Rail.

From Ludlow to WOOFERTON JUNC.
see Rte. 1. From hence a branch
quits the main line, running parallel
with the Teme River to

3 m. *Easton Court Stat.* (in Here-
fordshire).

On rt. is the pretty *ch.* of *Little Hereford*; it is for the most part of the date of Henry II., and possesses an early Norm. font, a piscina, sedilia, and over the chancel arch remains of a fresco painting of the Crucifixion. There are monuments to the Delameres, who were great benefactors to the *ch.* Bishop William of Hereford ordered masses for the soul of Wm. Delamere, "pro donatione et libertate ecclesia de Parva Hereford." There is a most singular piscina by the side of the chancel arch near its point, which was evidently connected with the rood-loft, of which the staircase still exists. In the chancel is a monument to the late Jos. Bailey, M.P. for the county. On l. is *Easton Court* (Mrs. Bailey), a seat of Sir J. Russell Bailey, Bart., which formerly belonged to the Delameres and then to the Danseys, from whom it was purchased in 1840. In the library are some arm-chairs made out of the house at Leicester, where King Richard slept the night before Bosworth. In this parish, also, are *Ledwyche Farm*, once belonging to the family of Benbow, of which Admiral Benbow was a member; and *Bleatherwood Court*, an old house built by Christopher Dansey, on his marriage with Sybil Dela-

mere, temp. Henry VIII. *Upton Court* was an old seat of the Karvers. The course of the Teme is extremely pretty here, and at *Red Rock*, a little farther on. Crossing the *Ledwyche*, the rly. re-enters Salop at

4 m. *Burford House*, a seat of Lord Northwick, erected in the reign of George II. It has a fine avenue of trees in front. This estate came from the Mortimers to the family of Cornwall, who enjoyed it under the designation of the Barons of Burford. The line ended in a daughter, who married Legh of High Leigh (Rte. 19), by whom this property was sold to William Bowles, M.P. for Bewdley. The Lords of Burford held the land by barony, but were not summoned to Parliament, an exemption first claimed as a privilege, but afterwards lamented as a privation. In the reign of Henry III. Burford was a place of so much importance as to possess a weekly market and an annual fair of 3 days.

The *E. Eng. Ch.*, consisting of a nave and chancel, with rather massive low western tower, though it has experienced extensive alterations, possesses many points of interest. Here is a very perfect piscina, an excellent Perp. font, encaustic tiles dug up from under the altar—and a niche discovered in a similar way under a monument. The screen which separates the organ from the chancel is beautifully carved, and came from Louvain. On the N. wall of the chancel extends a most interesting triptych, executed 1588 by Melchior Salaboss, on the outer surface of which the Apostles are portrayed in 12 compartments, while in the centre are full-sized paintings of Richard Cornwall and Janet his wife. Above is a representation of the heavenly host, and in a narrower panel underneath is the recumbent figure of Edmund Cornwall, the "Strong Baron," in

his shroud. He was the son of Richard Cornwall, and 7 ft. 3 in. in height. Underneath a canopy in the chancel is the recumbent alabaster effigy of the Princess Elizabeth, daughter of John of Gaunt, sister of Henry IV., wife of John Holland, Duke of Exeter, and afterwards of Sir J. Cornwall, Lord Fanhope, a professional tilter in the reign of Henry IV. She died 1426, and was originally buried with her husband in Whitefriars Ch., London. Notice the elaborate and minute carving of the folds of the dress. In the churchyard is a wheel-cross on octagonal base, restored by the parishioners in 1867 in memory of Miss Rushout. Amongst the Chronicles of Burford is one of a fight between the parson and Geoffrey Young in 1292, in which the latter struck the parson on the head with a staff so that he died in 8 weeks. For this offence Young was outlawed, as he had no chattels to be forfeited. The Rectory is a charmingly picturesque (though modern) house near the ch. In the neighbourhood of Burford are *Nash Court* (G. Pardoe, Esq.), *Stoke House* (P. Williams, Esq.), and *Court-at-Hill* (Col. Hill).

5½ m. *Tenbury Stat.* (in Worcestershire). Tenbury (Pop. 1890; *Hotel*, Swan; exceedingly good) derives its name from the river which divides Salop from Worcestershire, and is here crossed by a neat bridge of 6 arches. The town, which possesses one or two old houses, such as the Royal Oak, consists of 2 streets crossing each at rt. angles, and has a Spa, Corn Exchange, Workhouse, a Butter cross and a ch. within its limits. The tower and chancel are the only remains of the ancient ch. erected in the 11th centy. The nave was destroyed in November, 1770, by the overflowing of the Teme, which surrounds the ch.-yd. This injury was occasioned

by digging a grave near the foot of a pillar supporting the roof between the nave and S. aisle, when the water percolating through, undermined the column, and threw down that portion of the edifice. The church, which consists of nave, aisles, chancel, and west tower, has been carefully restored, and presents several objects of interest. The E. window of 5 lights and 2 single lights in the chancel are memorial windows of stained glass. The aisles are separated from the nave by 3 arches with clustered columns. A curious monument is preserved here—the effigy of a knight only 30 inches long, clad in chain mail, with a surcoat and sword, and his legs crossed. It is on a raised tomb 3 ft. in length, within a canopy 8 ft. high, and is ascribed to Sir John Sturmy, who joined the Crusaders under Richard I. At the E. end of the S. aisle are 2 life-size recumbent figures of Thomas Acton, Esq., and his wife, on a richly carved base, erected in 1584. He is represented with his feet resting on a boar. The advowson of Tenbury belonged to the monastery of Sheen in Surrey, and after its suppression was possessed by Shakespeare's Sir Thomas Lucy, by whose descendants it was sold, in 1716, to Mr. Read, whose youngest daughter was the mother of Sir Thomas Lawrence.

A mineral spring was discovered here in 1839, by workmen sinking a well. The water sprung up suddenly from a bed of limestone, lying under a massive stratum of old red sandstone, 32 ft. below the surface. It contains chlorides of calcium and of sodium, magnesia, and bromine, with a trace of iodine, and has proved highly beneficial in scorbutic and cutaneous disorders. A pump room, a reading room, and baths have been established for the convenience of invalids, and walks laid out on the banks of the small river Kyre.

The tourist should visit the Rev. Sir Frederick Ouseley's magnificent ch. of *St. Michael*, about 2 m. from Tenbury on the Leominster road. It is a splendid example of Dec. architecture, and is gorgeously fitted up. The organ is one of the best in England, and was constructed under Sir Frederick's immediate superintendence. Attached to the ch. is a college, wherein boys are educated with a special view to the cultivation of church music. If possible, visit it on a saint's day, when full choral service is performed.

From Tenbury the line keeps near the turnpike-road, and the river, passing rt. *Kyrewood* (— Wheeler, Esq.), to

$7\frac{1}{2}$ m. *Newnham Stat.* On rt. is *Newnham Court* (Mrs. Wheeler), and on l. is the village of Knighton on Teme. The Talbot Inn at *Newnham Bridge* enjoys repute as a comfortable hostelry for anglers. The Teme for several miles is preserved by an Association, of which the terms of membership are reasonable. Trout and grayling are the principal catches.

The rly. now turns to the N. to

10 m. *Neen Sollers Stat.*, on the outskirts of *Bewdley Forest*. The ch. has a monument to Humphry Coningsby, lord of the manor in the 16th centy. To the rt. 1 m. is *Shakenhurst* (G. Wicksted, Esq.), an unpretending brick mansion with a porch.

2 m. to the E. is *Mamble Ch.*, which has 2 mortuary chapels belonging to the Blount and Shakenhurst families, filled with their memorials. Amongst them is a stone effigy of Ralph de Mamble in full suit of chain armour, and a brass of John Blount and his wife, 1510. This neighbourhood is noted for its longevity. Passing l. *Mawley Hall*, the seat of Sir E. Blount, Bart., situated at the head of a picturesque glen, the traveller arrives at

$13\frac{1}{2}$ m. *Cleobury Mortimer Stat.* $2\frac{1}{2}$ m. from the town. *Inn, King's Arms*. It is a straggling old-fashioned little place, on the banks of the Rea Brook. The ch. (formerly attached to a religious house) is of E. E. date, and has nave, aisles, chancel, S. porch, and square tower with a high octagonal wooden spire. A son of Sir Roger de Mortimer and Lady Isabel de Ferrara, which hardly survived its birth, was buried here. Adjoining it is a grammar school founded by Sir E. L. Child. At *Cleobury Mortimer* was born Robert Longland, the author of the 'Vision of Piers Plowman,' in the 14th centy. Saxton, in his survey, mentions a large park here, originally a royal chase or park, which in early times came to the Mortimers, and again merged in the crown.

The rly. now enters the *Bewdley Forest*, once so vast that Worcestershire took its name from it, but now a district of 7000 acres, planted with oak and underwood, which, however, scarcely furnishes the usual charms of forest scenery. A periodical pillage has been adopted from an early period, calling forth the following complaint in the *Polyolbion*.

"When soon the goodlie Wyre, that wonted
was so hie
Her statelle top to reare, ashamed to behold
Her straights and goodlie woods unto the
furnace sold;
And looking on herself, by her decay doth see
The miserie wherein her sisters' forests bee."

The *Forest of Wyre* coalfield stretches from the N. end of the Abberley Hills, and under the *Bewdley Forest*, until it becomes contracted to a narrow band along side the Severn, near *Bridgnorth*, where it dies out. The coal seams are those of the upper series, and as usual in those cases, are of inferior quality. In fact, coal mining in the *Forest of Wyre* has not in general proved a successful adventure. There are several pits in the parishes of *Mamble* and *Pensax*. "In some

of the latter the shafts are from 30 to 40 yards deep, passing through white sandstone, and two coals are worked, of which the upper or yard coal is the best—a lower coal of inferior quality is not extracted. The overlying coal sandstone is exhibited in fine quarries at Pensax, and is a good building material, but it thins out towards the Abberley Hills, where the overlying strata are composed chiefly of clunch and slate."—*Murchison*. Notwithstanding that the timber of the Wyre district is far below the size of English forests, it is a pleasant wild out-of-the-way country to ramble in, and will well repay the pedestrian.

The rly. crosses the Severn at *Dowles Brook*, on an iron bridge of one arch, having a span of 200 ft., and joins the Severn Valley Rly. at Northwood.

1½ m. *Bewdley (Inn, George)*, is in Worcestershire, but so close to the borders of Shropshire, that it must be described here. It is a borough town, consisting of two principal streets at right angles, containing very well built houses. It takes its name (*Beau Lieu* or *Bellus Locus*) from its pleasant situation upon the declivity of a hill on the rt. bank of the Severn, which is crossed by one of Telford's bridges, erected 1797, and charmingly sheltered by the adjoining forest of Wyre. Camden describes it in a complimentary verse—

"*Delictum rerum bellus locus undique floret,
Fronde coronatus Viriara tempora Silva.*"

"*Fair seated Bewdley, a delightful town
Which Wyre's tall oaks with shady branches
crown.*"

It was included in the *Marches of Wales*, and was added to the county of Worcester by Henry VIII., though it had previously obtained a charter of incorporation from Edward IV. Its situation on the Severn, and its means of communication

with Bristol by that river, enabled the merchants of Bewdley to establish a very extensive trade in combs and sailors' caps, and it was once the emporium for the exportation of Welsh flannels, cotton goods, timber, bark, corn, leather, and wool; and it imported groceries for the supply of Lancashire and the Principality. Its trade in these commodities has been abolished by modern arrangements; but the town retains many proofs of its former prosperity in the numerous massive houses built by its wealthy merchants. In the Civil War Bewdley was held for the King, but was surprised by Fox the Tinker, who took Sir T. Lyttleton and other persons of quality prisoners. Charles I. regained possession of it before the fight at Marston Moor, and also after his defeat at Naseby.

The Town Hall, a neat modern building in the High Street, has a commodious market place underneath, with the arms of Lyttleton carved in front. John Tomes, a theological disputant of notoriety in the Civil Wars, and Willis, Bishop of Winchester, son of a carpenter, were natives of Bewdley.

Ticknell House (J. Bury, Esq.), situated on a very picturesque eminence, was built by Henry VII., as a place of retirement for Arthur, Prince of Wales, in the forest of Wyre, and in this house the prince was married by proxy to Catherine of Aragon.

The Court of Marches was once held alternately at Ludlow and Ticknell, and it was on his road between these places that the prince died, A.D. 1502. Ticknell continued in good condition until the Civil Wars, when it was visited by Charles I., and was afterwards demolished by the Parliament. Their Commissioners described the Royal House as having a "a great court, a garden, and several outhouses—the house built within the park, and

contains 2 acres in its site." At the Restoration it was granted to Lord Herbert, and afterwards to Sir Francis Winnington, Solicitor-General.

Winterdyne House (J. Shaw, Esq.), commanding a delightful view of the Severn, was built 1770, by Sir E. Winnington, Bart. "The healthiness of the situation, the beauty of the prospect, and the commodious arrangements of the mansion unite in making it a very delightful residence."—*Nash*.

Excursions in the neighbourhood of Bewdley, to Ribbesford, 1½ m.; Habberley Valley, 3 m. (*Handbook for Worcestershire*).

Distances.—Kidderminster, 3½ m.; Stourport, 3 m.; Bridgnorth, 13 m.

Lacy. There is here part of a Cross of beautiful proportions, of the date of 1500, or thereabouts. Inside the *ch.* is a monument with a singular Latin inscription to a member of the family of Lord Lisburne, and also one to the Lucys of Charlecot, in Warwickshire. There are also a good oak rood-loft and Norm. font with sculptured arcades. The pulpit is of the date of the beginning of the 17th centy. In the *ch.-yard* is a gravestone, with the arms let in with red cement, which has retained its colour. Near the village is *Bitterley Court* (Rev. C. Walcot), who has an interesting collection of autographs and documents. The road now ascends the shoulder of Hoar Edge, and soon joins

2. The lower road, which is rather longer, and passes, *rt.*, *The Sheet* (Mrs. Wheeler), and soon afterwards *Caynham Court*, the seat of Sir William Curtis, Bart. On the hill above the house is a Roman camp, in good preservation; 2 m. to the E. is *Whitton Chapel* and *Whitton Park*, an old seat of the Charltons. One of the rooms is still hung with tapestry. The road now ascends *Knowbury Hill*, and joins the former one. By pursuing this main road, the traveller will reach *Cleobury Mortimer* in 6 m. (*Rte. 2*), passing 1. the village of *Hopton Wafers* and *Hopton Court* (T. Woodward, Esq.). The *ch.* of *Hopton* was attached to *Brecon Priory*. *Hopton Court* was in the 17th centy. the seat of the *Hydes*, but it passed by purchase to Mr. *Oldham*, who built a new house from designs by *Nash*. The grounds were laid out by *Repton*.

The Clees Hills, famous, according to *Camden*, "for producing the best barley, and not without some veins of iron," form a picturesque and singular range, running rather disjointedly for some 10 m. in a north-easterly direction. They may be described as a long ridge, consisting of *Knowbury*,

ROUTE 3.

FROM LUDLOW TO WOLVERHAMPTON BY CLEE HILLS, AND BRIDGNORTH.

This road leads through a portion of Shropshire scarcely touched by *rlys.*, and but little frequented.

The direct road to *Bridgnorth* is by *Middleton*, distance 17½ m.; but a far more interesting *rte.* is obtained by going across the *Clee Hills*, and regaining the turnpike at *Burwarton* or *Cleobury North*.

There are 2 roads to the *Clee Hills* from *Ludlow*:—

1. The upper one (5 m.) is the shorter, passing, 2 m. l., *Henley Hall*, and leaving the village of *Middleton* to the l., 3½ m. To the l., 1 m., is the village of *Bitterley*, mentioned in *Domesday Book*, as having once belonged to *Roger de*

Hoar Edge, and Farlow Hill, in front of which, and connected by a small elevated neck, rises the steep escarpment of Titterstone Cle (1780 ft.), a most important feature in South Shropshire scenery. Leland says: "The highest part of Cle Hills is cawlyd Tyderstone. In it is a fayre playne grene and a fountayne in it. Ther is another Hill, 3 miles distant, cawlyd the Brown Cle." At Farlow, the hills die out for about 2 m., but reappear further N. in the two eminences of the Brown Cle.

From any one of them, but more especially the Titterstone Cle, the view is remarkably fine, extending over the Malverns, the Sugar-loaf, the Scyrrid in Monmouthshire, and the Black Mountains in Breconshire, while eastward the whole extent of country is visible to Bridgnorth, and even into Staffordshire. Drayton thus sings of the Teme and the Clees:—

"Where at her going out, those mountains
of commande
(The Clees, like loving Twinnes and Sittter-
stone that stande)
Trans-severed, behold faire England towards
the rise,
And on their setting side, how ancient
Cambria lies."

The geologist will find very much to interest him, for the Clees Hill coal-field consists of "2 small outlying tracts, remnants of a formation that once spread continuously from South Wales and Gloucestershire. They are perched on the summits of the Titterstone and Brown Cle; and, if lighted up with the combustible materials with which they are stored, would serve as beacon-fires for many a mile around. These coal-fields are rather more than a mile each in diameter, and are capped by a bed of hard *basalt*, to which, owing to its powers of resistance to marine denudation, the hills probably owe their preservation. On these flat-topped hills are planted several small collieries, whose shafts pierce the basalt

before entering the coal. The vent from which this igneous rock has been erupted, is situated in the Titterstone Cle; and from this orifice the basalt has apparently been poured forth in the form of liquid submarine lava, at some period after the coal-mines were formed." The basalt is in great request for "metal" for roads, for which it is quarried under the name of Jewstone or Dhu-stone (black stone). Large crushing engines have been erected for the purpose of breaking it up on the spot. "The thickness of the coal formation is but small, containing only 2 or 3 thin columns, and the strata rest generally on Old Red sandstone, but representatives both of the carboniferous limestone and Millstone grit, are interposed at the eastern side of the Titterstone Cle."—*Hull*. At Farlow and Orston these beds between the Old Red and the Millstone grit are especially interesting, and have yielded the *Pterichys macrocephalus*, while the overlying limestones are rich in palatal teeth of *Orodus*, *Pæclodus*, *Helodus*, &c. The botanist will find on the Clees Hills the minute harebell (*Wahlenbergia hederacea*), *Allorsus crispus* (paraleys fern), *Achillea Ptarmica*, *Viola lutea*, *Scutellaria minor*, *Sedum Telephium*, *Polygonum convolvulus*, *Inula Helenium*, *Saxifraga hypnoides*, *Narthecium ossifragum*, *Botrychium lunare*, *Osmunda regalis*.

The archæologist may observe the remains of an ancient *encampment* on the summit of Titterstone Cle, and facing the W. is a portion of basaltic rock, called "The Giant's Chair." The vallum surrounding the camp is larger than that of Abdon Burf, but inferior to it in height. It measures from N. to S. 560 yds., and from E. to W. $\frac{1}{4}$ m. The original entrance lies on the S.S.E. The coal from the collieries is conveyed to Ludlow by a rly., used only for minerals.

The main road from Middleton runs up the valley of the Ledwyche Brook, passing l., on high ground, *Downton Hall*, the seat of Sir Charles Boughton, Bart.

4 m. rt., *The Moor*; and to the l., 1 m., is the village of Hopton in the Hole, or *Hopton Cangeford*.

6½ m. on rt., 1½ m., is *Wheat Hill*, the ch. of which has a fine semicircular doorway with cable moulding; the tympanum is ornamented with diamond facets.

8½ m., *Burwarton village* and *Hall* (Lord Boyne), on the slopes of the Brown Clec Hill. *Burwarton Ch.* is of Norm. date, and has a plain semicircular chancel arch. In the interior is some carved woodwork. The Brown Clec Hill, which overlooks Burwarton, has two summits, each marked by a camp. *Clec Burf*, the most southerly, is surrounded by a vallum on the N. side. *Abdon Burf* (Qy. Buarth, enclosure) is also encircled by a vallum of dewstone, 65 ft. wide at its base. The enclosed area is oval, 1317 ft. from N. to S., and 660 ft. from E. to W. In this enclosure are remains of circles, and a large unhewn stone called the Giant's Shaft. Mr. Hartshorne considers that there are traces of Druidic worship at Abdon Burf. *Nordy Bank* is a Roman station, 1 m. W. of Clec Burf, and a road led from it to Rushbury, now called the Devil's Causeway.

Aston Botterell Ch. (1 m. rt.) contains a canopied altar-tomb to the Botterells.

On rt., 4 m., is *Stoddesdon Ch.*, restored in 1868. It contains some good Norm. work in the lower stage of the tower and semicircular arches of the N. arcade: a S. aisle, called the Wrickton Chantry, was added in the 14th centy. The W. doorway has rude carvings of animals of Norm. or Saxon date. *Stoddesdon Manor* originally belonged to the Norman family of De Gamage, and

afterwards was held by the Cornwalls and Sir Walter Manny. He raised the siege of Hennebonne, which had been defended to the last gasp by the Countess of Montfort. Swinfield, Bp. of Hereford, visited Stoddesdon in 1290, and found his lodging very indifferent, for he had to send to market all the way to Kidderminster, and to fetch his horse-shoes and nails from Hereford. The tiles in the chancel are copied from old patterns dug up from portions of the former foundations. Upwards of 20 varieties were discovered altogether.

9½ m., *Cleobury North* and *Hall* (H. T. Mytton, Esq.).

A ch. existed at Cleobury in the reign of Henry I., and was attached to Brecon Priory. The font is octagonal with tooth-moulding round the base.

10½ m. is the village of *Nesnton* on the Rea Brook.

The country now becomes very hilly all the way to

Bridgnorth, 17½ m. (Rte. 4), *Hotels*: Crown; George.

From hence the road crosses the Severn, and mounts the opposite hill, descending again at Roughton, overlooking the river Worf and the grounds of *Davenport House* (W. S. Davenport, Esq.), a fine brick mansion placed in the centre of delightful scenery, caused by the windings of the Worf in its narrow and deep channel. At the bottom of the valley is *Worfield*, with its pretty ch. and spire. In the interior are a good screen, a canopied marble altar tomb with recumbent figures of Sir George Bromley and his lady, a brass to Sir E. Bromley, and other monuments to the Davenport family. The late Mr. Davenport was a well-known sportsman, and celebrated for his greyhounds. Among the former rectors of Worfield were William de Kilkenny, Bp. of Ely and Lord Chancellor 1255, and Henry de Wingham, Bp.

of London and Lord Chancellor 1260. The latter was also Dean of St. Martin's, Dean of Tettenhall, Rector of Alveley, Kirkham, and Preston—a tolerable example of pluralism.

[Nearly 4 m. to the N. is *Badger Hall* (E. Cheney, Esq.), which obtained its name from its former possessors, the De Beggesoveres, afterwards the Bagsores. In the last centy. Badger belonged to Isaac Hawkins Browne (died 1776), a lawyer and poet of considerable ability, author of 'The Pipe of Tobacco' and a Latin poem on the 'Immortality of the Soul.' The *ch.*, which is of the date of the 12th centy., contains some exquisite monuments to members of the Browne and Cheney families, by *Flaxman*, *Chantrey*, and *Gibson*. The scenery of the Badger dingle is very charming,—a narrow rocky glen of nearly 1 m. running down to join the valley of the Worf. It is a favourite spot for excursionists, and admission is granted on certain days.

Cotesbrook, near Badger, is a seat of Mr. Whitmore, the former owner of Apley.]

4½ m. to the S., on a high ridge known as Gravenor Common, is *Chicknell* (Capt. Taylor), and at 5½ m. a little to the N., the archæologist will find an earthwork known as the *Walls*.

At 7 m., Shipley Common, the road enters Staffordshire.

14 m. Wolverhampton. (*Hotel: Swan*).—*Handbook for Staffordshire.*

ROUTE 4.

FROM BEWDLEY TO SHREWSBURY BY BRIDGNORTH AND IRONBRIDGE.

This route is conveniently performed by the Severn Valley Rly. of the Great Western Company, which leaves the main line between Worcester and Wolverhampton, at HAETLEBURY JUNC., entering Shropshire a few miles beyond Bewdley (Rte. 2). For the whole way, it is carried close to the Severn, and for picturesque and varied river scenery is excelled by few lines in the kingdom.

Quitting the *Bewdley Stat.* at Wribbenhall, it follows the l. bank of the river, and sends off the Tenbury and Woolferton branch at Dowles on l. 2 m. to rt., in the wooded high ground, is *Haberley valley*, the happy hunting-grounds of botanists, who have obtained within a radius of half-a-mile nearly 500 species of plants, while *Trimpley*, a little to the N., has yielded from its tilestones *Cephalaspis Murchisoni*. The line now crosses the river to

4 m. *Arley Stat.* The village is on the l. bank, in a little outlying corner of Staffordshire. The view is charming—a beautiful bend of the river, as it runs through a deep vale—the village close to the water, and above it the beautiful grounds and castle of *Arley* (— Woodward, Esq.), with the quaint *ch.* adjoining it.

About 5 m., to the W. of Arley, in an elevated and wild part of the Forest of Wyre, is *Kinlet Hall*, once, according to Camden, "a seat of the Blunts, a name very famous in these parts, denoting their golden locks. This is a very ancient and honourable family, and hath spread its branches far." Kinlet is now the seat of E. L. Childe, Esq., and is remarkable for the fine oak timber in the park. The *ch.* is near the house

in the grounds. It consists of nave, chancel, S. porch, and transept, on the outside wall of which are some blocked arches,—and contains monuments to the Blount and Childe families, some good stained glass, and a carved oak communion-table. The rector of Kinlet was also Abbot of Wigmore. In Wigmore ch. documents is an extract, showing that “he supplied corn and fuel for baking bread to Bishop Swinfield’s suite, when he visited Kinlet in 1290, besides forage and litter for 36 horses of his train. Their purveyor paid 1d. to the guide, and 4d. for crossing and recrossing the Severn at the ferry.” It was at Kinlet that this Bishop wrote his famous letter to Pope Nicholas IV., alleging the miracles which had been performed at the tomb of his predecessor Cantilupe, and soliciting his canonization. *Earnwood*, a manor in the parish of Kinlet, was originally a forest residence (with a park attached) of the Mortimers. On Feb. 13, 1225, King Henry III. commands Hugh de Neville to let Hugh de Mortimer have 10 fallow deer from the royal forest of Feckenham, which the King has given him towards stocking his park at Earnwood. The geologist will find here an instructive outbreak of Plutonic rock, consisting of hornblende greenstone, containing crystals of augite. To the N. of Kinlet is *Billingsley*, where, in 1636, was born Dr. Hyde, a celebrated Oriental scholar, and keeper of the Bodleian Library.

The rly. now ascends a steep incline to

6½ m., *Higley Stat.*, from whence there is a charming retrospective view of the river. To rt., on high ground, is *Aveley Church*.

8½ m. *Hampton Load Stat.* On the opposite bank is a small wharf for the unloading of coals and lime.

2 m. l. is *Chelmarsh*, the ch. of which belonged to Wigmore Abbey

in 1179. It contains a good piscina. Higher up, on the l. bank, are the village of Quat and *Dudmaston Hall* (W. Whitmore, Esq.).

11 m. *Eardington Stat.*, 2 m. S.W. of which is *Woodlands* (T. W. Browne, Esq.). Emerging from some heavy cuttings, the traveller gains a lovely view of

13 m. *Bridgnorth* (*Hotels*: Crown, George), than which few towns are more picturesquely placed. It is divided by the Severn, which here flows through a valley bounded by precipitous rocks covered with wood, into 2 portions—the Upper and Lower towns. The former is perched on the top of a cliff (180 ft. above the river), the descent to which is by a singular passage hewn out of the rock, at least 20 ft. Indeed, most of the cellars of the houses are excavated in the same way. Overlooking the town are the scanty remains of the *Castle*, around which a terrace walk has been formed, remarkable for the extent and beauty of the landscape. The castle was built in 1098 by Robert de Belesme, son of Roger de Montgomery. He was the third and last Norman Earl of Shrewsbury. This earldom he had obtained from William Rufus, but on his supporting the Duke of Normandy, he was outlawed, and the castle underwent a siege of 3 weeks’ duration, at the end of which it was taken. In the Pipe Roll is a charge of 1d. a day for the living of the porter of Brug (as Bridgnorth was then called) in the time of Henry II., who visited it in 1176, as also did John and Henry III. subsequently. King John gave the town a charter, and it has returned a member to Parliament ever since Edward I.’s reign.

It is recorded that Henry II. had a narrow escape of his life while besieging the castle, which was being held against him by Mortimer. An arrow was discharged at him by

an archer from the wall, when Hubert de St. Clare, stepping forward, received it in his own breast. In the Civil War it again stood a long siege of a month, when it was finally demolished. Bridgnorth possesses 2 chs. *St. Mary's*, rebuilt in 1796, is a Grecian building, with a tower and cupola, and has a fine altar-piece. This ch. is said to have been removed hither from Quatford. *St. Leonard's* was formerly collegiate, and is said to have once possessed 7 chapels. It was situated within the castle wall, and suffered greatly during the siege in the Civil War. It now consists of a nave, chancel, and aisle, and has been restored, all but one arch and the tower and belfry. During the restoration a fine oak roof was discovered under the plaster. A modern window on the S. side has been placed "by a priest of the English church, as a poor offering of thankfulness to Almighty God for many means of grace and good instruction vouchsafed to him in this church and at the adjoining grammar-school." The town-hall is of the date of 1652. There is a valuable divinity library, founded by Dean Stackhouse. There are some old "black and white" houses in the town, with other ancient and interesting buildings, such as the parsonage, the grammar-school, and the Swan Inn. Bishop Percy, the antiquary and author of 'Reliques of Ancient Poetry,' was born here in 1728. His father was a grocer in the town, and the house has been restored by its owner, Mr. Austin, of Birmingham. The Hospital of the Holy Trinity, or St. John's, stood in the Lower Town, so as to command all the roads eastward. St. James's Leper House stood outside the town on the Quatford road.

The Lower town, which is connected with the Upper by a handsome bridge of 7 arches, does not possess much of interest. From
[*Shropshire, &c.*]

this bridge, indeed, the town has obtained its name; for it superseded another and much more ancient one, 1 m. to the S., which crossed the river most probably at *Quatford*. With the exception of malting, Bridgnorth has not much trade, though, as the centre of a large agricultural district, it is a pleasant halting-place. The Grammar School, an Elizabethan building, founded by the Corporation in 1503, has a good standing amongst educational establishments. On the Worfield road is a red sandstone cave, known as the *Hermitage*, the hermit having been supposed to be a brother of King Athelstan.

Distances.—Bewdley, 13 m.; Wolverhampton, 14; Shrewsbury, 21; Coalbrookdale, 9; Ludlow, 17½; Davenport, 3½; Badger, 7½; Quatford, 1; Apley, 4½ m.

[An excursion of 8½ m. can be taken from Bridgnorth, through the district formerly occupied by the Forest of Morf, crossing the bridge, ascending the hill, and leaving the Quatford road on rt.

1 m. is *Quatford*, the ancient *Cwthbrige* of the Saxon Chronicle. A fortress was built here in 913 by Ægelfleda, and subsequently a collegiate ch. by Adalisa, wife of Earl Roger de Montgomery, as a romantic memorial of her first meeting with her husband on this spot. In 1085 followed the castle and bridge recorded in Domesday Book as the New Berg of Earl Roger. The whole of the district was then completely covered with wood, Quatford being the capital of the Forest of Morf until the foundation of Bridgnorth by Earl Robert de Belesme, "who," says Ordericus, "removed the people and the houses hither." The ch. is of the date of the 14th centy., except a small window on the N. side of the chancel, which is earlier. The chancel arch is late Norm. Mr. Petit thinks that this ch. preserves its original ground-plan, as in the

walls of the nave and chancel is a kind of tufa, while the tower is built of red sandstone. In the interior are some incised slabs and a font, the panelling of which is of the 14th centy.

Morf Forest was 8 m. in length, by 6 wide, and existed for some two centuries after the Conquest. The Danes paid it a visit, when they were deprived of their fleet on the Thames by King Alfred, and lay entrenched within its recesses for more than a year.

3 m. a road on l. branches off to *Claverley*. 2½ m., passing l. *Chicknell* (Capt. Taylor). *Claverley Ch.*, of Norman transition date, was formerly adorned with a fine series of armorial bearings. The font is Norman, having arcades, the piers of which are of different mouldings. The visitor should notice the grotesque heads, forming the capital of one of the arches.

5 m. on l., 1½ m., close to the Staffordshire border, is *Gatacre Park*, the seat of E. F. Acton, Esq., whose family has been settled here since Charles I. The house is modern, but the old building was celebrated for its curious rooms and landing-places. All the offices were some distance off, but were connected by underground passages opening into the country at a considerable distance. It is supposed that Charles II. was concealed here on his flight to Boscobel. The road now crosses the border to

8½ m. *Enville Park*, the seat of the Earl of Stamford and Warrington (*Handbook for Staffordshire*.)]

3 m. on the Wenlock road is the village of *Morville*, which possessed a ch. in the days of Edward the Confessor. This was succeeded by one built by the monks of Salop in 1118. It then became a cell, and remained subject to Shrewsbury Abbey till the Reformation. The architecture is of the 12th centy. The tower has

very thick walls and flat buttresses. The nave and aisles are separated by semicircular arches with mouldings of transition date. There are Norm. details in the chancel door, the string-courses, and the font. *Aldenham Hall*, adjoining the village, is approached by a fine avenue, and is the seat of Lord Acton. *Upton Cressett Ch.*, a little to the S., has a nave, chancel, and broach-spire. The S. aisle is of later date. The E. window is remarkably small. The arches separating the nave and aisle have good chevron mouldings, and there is a splendid doorway with three orders of Norm. moulding. The font is shaped like a jar and ornamented with round-headed arches. There is a brass to the memory of William Cressett, his wife, 2 sons, and 3 daughters, 1640.

Aston Eyre Ch., 1 m. W. of Morville, has a curious carving over the tympanum of the doorway, of a figure on horseback, another sitting down, and a third walking on the other side. It is believed by some antiquaries to represent the Good Samaritan. *Acton Round Ch.* (restored) has nave, transepts, chancel, and tower, with tombs of the Acton family. The *Hall*, of the date of Queen Ann, is now a farmhouse.

From Bridgnorth Stat. the rly. tunnels under a portion of the town, and resumes its course by the river-side, passing l. *Stanley*, the seat of Sir Henry Tyrwhitt, Bart. Near it is *Asley Abbott Ch.*, dedicated to St. Calixtus. Part of it is of Norm. date, but the chancel was rebuilt in 1633, and the nave and steeple in 1857.

17 m. *Linley Stat.* *Apley Park*, on the opposite side of the river, the seat of W. Forster, Esq., is one of the most beautiful places in the county, or, for the matter of that, in the kingdom. It is a fine mansion built of Grinshill stone, with a lofty square tower, overlooking the Severn,

which here makes a graceful bend. On the S.E. front is a grained archway, under which is the principal entrance. But the chief beauty of Apley is the wooded park of 245 acres and the *Terrace*, an elevated drive of more than a mile in length, and of sufficient breadth to allow 6 carriages abreast. The view from it is exceedingly fine, embracing a panorama of 60 miles' circumference.

Apley formerly belonged to the Lucys of Charlcoote (Shakespeare's prosecutor), from whom it was purchased in the reign of Elizabeth by an ancestor of Mr. Whitmore, the late owner.

Linley Ch. (1 m. to l.) is of the date of the 12th centy. The S. doorway is semicircular, and the tympanum is occupied by a curious herring-bone pattern. There is some beautiful carving on the upper portion of the font.

$2\frac{1}{2}$ m. to the W. is *Willey Park*, the seat of Lord Forester, also built of Grinshill stone, from designs by *Wyatt*. The front of the house is nearly 303 ft. long, and has a fine Corinthian portico in the centre. The park is charmingly undulating and wooded, and is ornamented by a series of small lakes. This park is mentioned by Leland as being on the bounds of the Royal Hay or Forest of Shirlot. From hence it is only 3 m. to Much Wenlock. (Rte. 6).

The valley of the Severn now becomes narrower and more contracted, and signs of manufacturing industry begin to appear at

$19\frac{1}{2}$ m. *Coalport Stat.*, where the Shropshire iron district may be said to commence. The London and North-Western have a station here on the other side of the river, from whence their line runs to *Madeley* and *Wellington* (Rte. 7). The former place, which contains ironworks, was the residence of the Rev. W. Fletcher, whose life was written by John Wesley. Although the natural beauty

of the river valley is very great between Coalport and

21 m. *Ironbridge Stat.*, it is terribly spoilt by the forges and foundries, the banks of slag and refuse that run down to the water's edge. Tiers of dirty cottages rise on the hill-side, which is very steep; advantage being taken of each little dingle to carry a turnpike or a railroad through it. Very near the station the Severn is crossed by an *iron bridge* of one arch, of 120 ft. span, the history of which is exceedingly interesting, as being the first iron bridge on record. It is due to the energy of Abraham Darby, of the Coalbrookdale Works, in 1779, who, perceiving the want of communication between the brick, pottery, and iron works of *Madeley* and *Broseley*, determined to bridge the Severn over at this point, where the banks are steep and slippery. "The construction of a bridge of iron was an entirely new idea. An attempt, indeed, had been made at Lyons to construct such a bridge more than 20 years before; but it had entirely failed, and a bridge of timber erected instead. It is not known whether the Coalbrookdale masters had heard of that attempt; but, even if they had, it would have been of no practical use to them. Mr. Pritchard, an architect of Shrewsbury, was first employed to prepare a design of the intended structure, which is still preserved. Although he proposed to introduce cast-iron in the arch of the bridge, it was only as a sort of key, occupying but a few feet at the crown of the arch. This sparing use of cast-iron indicates the timidity of the architect in dealing with the new material; his plan exhibiting a desire to effect a compromise between the tried and the untried in bridge construction. But the use of iron to so limited an extent, and in such a part of the structure, was of more than questionable utility; and if Mr.

Pritchard's plan had been adopted, the problem of the iron bridge would still have remained unsolved. The plan, however, after having been duly considered, was eventually set aside, and another, with the *entire* arch of cast iron, was prepared, under the superintendence of Abraham Darby, by Mr. Thomas Gregory, his foreman of pattern-makers."—*Smiles*. The bridge excited so much curiosity in the country that in 1788 the Society of Arts gave Mr. Darby their gold medal; and Robert Stephenson says of it, "If we consider that the manipulation of cast iron was then in its infancy, a bridge of such dimensions was doubtless a bold as well as an original undertaking, and the efficiency of the details is worthy of the boldness of the conception."

The skill of the builders is shown by the fact, that when a thorough examination of the bridge was made in 1862, after nearly 80 years' daily wear and tear, it was found that the abutments had not moved, nor were the ribs out of their proper right line. There had been merely a strain on the land-arches and the road-plates, which the main arch had effectually resisted. The town of Ironbridge (*Inn*: Tontine) contains a pretty *ch.*, schools, and a drinking fountain.

Nearly opposite the iron bridge, but a little higher up the river, is the ravine of *Coalbrook Dale*, in which are situated the celebrated iron-works of that name. (*Inn*: Coalbrook Dale.) The valley is singularly beautiful; and, although to a certain extent disfigured by forges and furnaces, it is free from the dirty and squalid appearance of Ironbridge. This is due to the care of the masters and the neatness and architectural attention paid to the residences, offices, and schools.

Coalbrook Dale, although now excelled in size by hundreds of establishments, is historically interesting

as the cradle of the iron-trade, and the first place where iron was regularly smelted by means of coke and coal. Previous to that time, viz., the 18th centy., iron-masters had always used wood for that purpose, and particularly in Sussex, the then head-quarters of the trade. But such havoc was played with the timber, that grave alarm was expressed lest England should become disforested, and severe enactments were passed in 1581 against the use of wood in iron-smelting. This had the effect of paralysing the trade for many years, and of completely putting a stop to it in Sussex: and it was not until the time of Dud Dudley, son of the Earl of Dudley, that attention was turned to the application of coke or "pit-coal" for smelting instead of charcoal (1620). Efforts, more or less successful, were made by him and others to carry on the manufacture in this way; but it was reserved for the Darbys, in 1700, to apply it on a large and systematic scale. Abraham Darby, the first of the iron-masters, was the son of a farmer near Dudley, who established a brass and iron foundry near Bristol, where he succeeded in obtaining from Holland the method of making cast-iron pots, then a profound secret. But his partners being unwilling to embark more capital in the trade, he removed to Coalbrook Dale in 1709, and there first commenced a furnace supplied by wood. Here he obtained a great country reputation for the excellence of his castings of pots, kettles, and other hollow ware. The smelting by charcoal continued till about 1747, when the timber having become very scarce, pit-coal appears to have been introduced by Mr. Ford, the then manager, who had married Darby's daughter. Abraham Darby died in 1763, and was succeeded by Richard Reynolds, who had married another daughter, and in whose time the works were greatly extended, coal-mining becoming

an important part of the concern. In his time, too, the reverberatory furnace for refining the iron was invented by two of the foremen, named *Cranage*, and adopted by him. Their ingenuity, however, was soon improved upon by a later process for puddling, carried out by Henry Cort. A still greater step was taken at Coalbrook Dale by Mr. Reynolds, in the use of iron instead of wooden rails for their tramroad. In 1784, when the Government sought to impose a tax upon pit-coal, the works at Coalbrook Dale were the largest in the kingdom, and the proprietors successfully protested against such an impolitic step. In 1816, Richard Reynolds died, after a long and useful life, in which he had not only secured the fortunes of his family, but done a vast deal of good to all around him, and to the country at large; and since that period the Coalbrook Dale Works, which, with certain changes of partners, have always been in the Darby family, have maintained a very high place in the ranks of the iron-trade. Although many others in Wales and Staffordshire exceed them in extent, they yield to none for the excellence of their castings, and the visitor will recall those exquisite worked-iron gates which were in the Great Exhibition of 1851. For further particulars of the Darby family, the reader is referred to Mr. Smiles' excellent account in his 'Industrial Biographies.' The works consisted, in 1866, of 5 furnaces at Dawley, Lawley, and Lightmoor, with 35 puddling furnaces at Horsehay. The town is neatly laid out, and bears evident tokens of that supervision which masters should give to those places connected with them, but which is so often wanting. The *ch.*, of Dec. style, was built in 1854 in a very pretty situation, and contains a stained glass window of the Last Supper, brought from Flanders. On the opposite eminence of Limekiln or *Lincoln*

Hill, there are pleasant walks, laid out by Richard Reynolds during his lifetime for the enjoyment of those employed in the works, and known as "The Workmen's Walks." The interior of the hill is hollowed out into vast caverns, caused by the extraction of the limestone of Wenlock (Upper Silurian) date. They are occasionally lighted up, when fine effects are produced. The Great Western Rly. has a *station* at Coalbrook Dale, from which the traveller can join the Severn Valley Rly. at BUILDWAS JUNC. (see *post*), or make his way to Wellington, passing *Lawley Bank*, *Horsehay*, and *Kelley* stations. As soon as the line emerges from the wooded dingles of Coalbrook Dale it passes through an uninteresting country, as far as regards scenery, with the exception that the Wrekin and its outlines are conspicuous on the l. The greater part of the district between Coalbrook Dale and Wellington is occupied by furnaces, forges, collieries, and brick-yards, brilliant enough at night-time, but black, dirty, and dusty in the day. An additional feature of dreariness is caused by the dismantled colliery-stacks and engine-houses, showing that the mineral treasures underneath have been exhausted. In fact, so much is this the case that the colliers have gradually left the west of the coal-field and migrated to the eastern outcrop. The Coalbrook Dale *coalfield* has a triangular form, with its base in the valley of the Severn and its northern apex at Newport. Along its western side it is bounded partly by a great fault, which brings in the New Red sandstone, and partly by the Silurian rocks of the Wrekin, which rises with its smooth and arched back to a height of 1320 ft. above the sea, and half that amount above the general level of the country around. Along its eastern side the coalfield is bounded by Permian strata, under which the carboniferous beds appear

to pass, but diminished both in thickness and productiveness of coal. The general dip of the strata is eastward; and in making a traverse to the foot of the Wrekin we cross in succession the base of the coal-measures, the millstone-grit, carboniferous limestone, a bed of basalt, and at length reach the Silurian rocks which form the general foundation of the carboniferous formations in this district.”

—Hull.

There are about 6 seams of workable coal, giving a thickness of 27 ft. altogether; but the field is much broken by faults, the principal of which, the Lightmoor fault, runs from N. to S., and has a throw of 100 yards. The fossil collector will have great success here in coal-measure fossils, and particularly in fish remains and shells (*Introduction*, p. viii.); but for particulars he should consult Mr. Prestwich's exhaustive memoir in 'Geol. Transactions,' 2nd Series, vol. v.]. Climbing the steep bank on the l. of Ironbridge, the road leads

1½ m. to *Broseley* (*Inn*: Lion), an unattractive town, principally dependant on its potteries and brick-yards. Tobacco-pipes are also largely made. The town, though ancient and mentioned in old documents as Burwardesley, contains very little of interest, except the *ch.*, which is of Perp. date, and was restored in 1845. It is subject to the mother *ch.* of Wenlock. There is an E. Dec. building of Grinshill stone, erected as a memorial to Mr. Pritchard, a native of Broseley, and once High Sheriff of Salop. "A spring of petroleum was discovered here in 1711. The burning well, as it was called, was shown as a curiosity for several years, when the supply of petroleum failed. The spring broke out again in 1747, and yielded about 3 or 4 barrels a day; but in 1752 the spring was cut into

in searching for coals, and the quantity yielded since has been but small."

1 m. W. of Broseley is *Benthall*, where are the celebrated encaustic tile-works of Messrs. Maw, who have a large establishment, employing a number of hands; and adjoining it is *Benthall Hall* (G. Maw, Esq.), an Elizabethan building of the date 1535. *Benthall Ch.* contains monuments to the families of Browne and Benthall. The neighbourhood is particularly interesting to the geologist. The lowland to the W. of Coalbrook Dale, looking towards Buildwas, is Upper Silurian (Wenlock Shale); and the lofty ridge including Benthall Edge and Lincoln Hill is Wenlock limestone, with millstone-grit reposing on it. On Benthall Edge the fossil collector will find beautiful specimens of *Favosites aspera*, *F. Gothlandica*, *F. multipora*, *Halyntes catenulatus*, &c. *Tyke's Nest*, the highest point of Wenlock Edge, is 417 feet above the Severn valley. The *Birches*, between Coalbrook Dale and Buildwas, was in 1773 the scene of an extraordinary convulsion, which altered the whole aspect of the country and turned the bed of the Severn.

Following the river-bank, the rly. receives the Coalbrook Dale and Wellington Branch, which crosses the valley, joining it, together with the Craven Arms and Wenlock Line (*Rte.* 6) at

23 m. BUILDWAS JUNC. (*Inn*: Bridge). Close to the rly., and a little beyond the station, are the picturesque ruins of *Buildwas Abbey*, once one of the finest churches in the West of England, founded for monks of the Cistercian Order between 1135 and 1160, by Roger de Clinton, Bishop of Chester, though Leland attributes it to Matilda de Bohun, wife of Sir Robert Burnell.

It is probable that an earlier building existed here, for a tradition narrates that "there was one of the ancient Bishops of Lichfield that was in Offa, King of Merce's tyme, that lived an Hermite life at Buldewas, after such tyme as the pall of the Archbishop of Lichfield was taken from Lichfield and restored again to Canterbury." It was a cruciform building, with a massive tower rising from the intersection, and the existing remains comprise the greater part of the walls and the chapter-house. "The chancel has been altered in the 13th centy., but not rebuilt; the nave has not been altered, but its two sides are not quite of the same date. It is evident that, as usual, the choir was built first, and the nave by degrees afterwards; the latter has Pointed arches, but the character of the work is not late, probably about 1150. The arches are merely recessed and not moulded, and the capitals are scolloped only. The clerestory windows are round-headed."—*Rickman*. The width of the ch. is 50 ft., the length of the nave 105 ft., and that of the chancel about 57 ft. The latter is lighted by a three-light Norm. window, and contains on the S. side some E. Eng. sedilia. The *Chapter-house* is in good preservation, and is a parallelogram in shape, vaulted in 9 compartments, and supported by 4 slender columns, two of which are octagonal and two circular. The chapter-house, over which was the dormitory, formed the eastern boundary of the cloisters, which stood on the N. of the ch. Opposite the chapter-house door was a beautiful gateway, which fell down in 1828. The abbot's house (recently restored) contains the ambulatory, the chapel, and a large hall of the 13th centy., with some interesting doorways and carved stones. There is also a curious series of underground passages, said by tradition to communicate with

Wenlock. The ceiling of the hall is of oak and Spanish chestnut. It is entered by a good Norm. doorway, and lighted by beautifully moulded Norm. windows, one being on either side the door. The establishment at Buildwas was very wealthy, and possessed no less than nine granges in different parts of Shropshire, two in Staffordshire, and one in Derbyshire, besides the parsonages of Leighton, Buildwas, and Hatton. The abbey also held jurisdiction over the Savigniac House of St. Mary's, Dublin, over the Abbey of Basingwerk, in Flintshire, and that of Dunbrody, in county Wexford. In Henry II.'s reign, the abbey was celebrated for possessing a cope worked by the hands of Fair Rosamond, which was doubtless an object of much curiosity, and, probably, no little gain. After passing Buildwas, the line still keeps close to the Severn, which now, however, winds through a level well-cultivated district. The hills have fallen back to a considerable distance, the Wrekin being the most conspicuous object some 4 m. to the rt. On l. is *Buildwas Park* (W. Moseley, Esq.), and on rt., across the river, Leighton village and *Hall* (R. Gardner, Esq.).

Leighton Ch. contains the effigy of a knight in mail armour, supposed to be Sir Titus de Leighton, 1315, and to have been brought from Buildwas at the Dissolution. "Sir Richard, who was an ancestor of Sir Baldwin Leighton of Loton, reserved to himself in a certain deed of feoffment a power to make a park in his manor of Leighton."—*Shirley*.

26 m. *Cressage Stat.* The river is here crossed by a timber bridge. Cressage obtained its name from a famous old oak (Οικυτεν ἄκ—Christ's oak). There are still the remains of another large tree, called the Lady Oak.

28½ m. *Cound Stat.* On l. is *Cound*.

Hall (Rev. H. Thoresby-Pelham), and on rt., nearly 3 m., is Wroxeter, the ancient Roman British city of Uriconium (Rte. 8). *Cound Ch.* contains an E. Norm. font with modern carvings.

30 m. *Berrington Stat.* and *Hall* (Hon. and Rev. P. Hill); 1½ m. on rt. the Severn is crossed at Atcham Bridge. *Berrington Ch.* contains the effigy of a knight in wood, and a Saxon font with faces as large as life carved on it. It was recorded that, in 1274, "the ch. was broken open and the clothes of Richard de Bathe stolen by Alice de Hanmon. The culprit was lodged in Shrewsbury gaol, but escaped without trial, by giving a cow to William de Munslow, the sheriff's officer." At 33¼ m. a junction is made with the Ludlow and Hereford line, and at 34 m. the traveller enters the joint *Stat.* of Shrewsbury.

ROUTE 5.

FROM KNIGHTON TO SHREWSBURY
BY CLUN, BISHOP'S CASTLE AND
MINSTERLEY.

Knighton (Inn: Norton), anciently called 'Tref-y-Clawdd, or the Town on the Dyke, is pleasantly situated on rising ground overlooking the rt. bank of the Teme, which

here divides the counties of Radnor and Salop. The chief object of interest in the town, which is clean and well built, is an *old mansion*, once occupied by the Brydges family, to which "on the side next the street was attached an open terrace walk, which was entered from the second story. To this balcony the family often resorted for the purpose of inhaling the refreshing breeze, enjoying the distant prospect, and contemplating the busy and careful faces of those who resorted to the fairs and markets, without running the risk of compromising their personal dignity by a nearer and more familiar association."—*Williams*. There is another *old house* at the E. of the town which formerly belonged to the Crowthers, a family of local importance, who furnished the county with sheriffs in the 17th centy. The building was in the form of an H, of Jacobæan architecture, and was approached by a very fine porch, now taken down. "Adjoining this house stood the house in which the Republican marauders received from the hands of Mr. Legge of Welling and his servants the death which their villainies and outrageous excesses deserved." The Castle stood where the Butter Cross afterwards stood, overlooking the town; but, with the exception of the name of the Castle Moat, there is nothing remaining of it. The *ch.* is a plain, square towered building of the last centy. *Offa's Dyke*, that wonderful line of partition raised by Offa to divide the kingdom of Mercia from the Welch, runs through the E. end of Knighton on its course N. and S. Of it Churchyard says:—

"There is a famous thing
Calde Offa's Dyke, that reacheth farre in
lengthe:
All kind of ware people might thither bringe;
It was free ground and calde the Britain's
strength."

1 m. S.E. of Knighton is *Farrington*, now a farmhouse, but once the residence of the Cutler family.

The letters R. C. and the date 1666 are still visible.

The tourist should make an excursion for 2 m. on the Knucklas road to *Craig Donna*, a very picturesque rock and ravine, originally tenanted, it is said, by an anchorite named Donna, who lived in the 7th centy.

Rail from Knighton (Central Wales) to Craven Arms, 13 m. on the E.; and to Llandrindod Wells, 19½ m.; Llandovery, 47 m.; and Swansea on the W.

Distances.—Presteign, 6½ m.; Cox-wall Knoll, 5; *Caer Caradoc*, 3½; Knucklas, 2½; Clun, 7; Kington, 13½ m.

There is no conveyance to Clun. Take the road to Ludlow for 1 m., and turn off to the l., up the glen under Kinsley Wood. The high ground is soon reached, Stow Hill and the *Holloway Rocks* being to rt. and the entrenchment of *Caer Caradoc* about 1 m. to the N. This mountain is extremely interesting to antiquaries, who, generally speaking, concur in fixing it as the scene of the last battle and defeat of *Caractacus*, King of the Silures, by the Romans under *Ostorius*. Cox-wall Knoll, some 3 m. E., is considered to have been by some the site of *Caractacus'* camp, but from the whole nature of the ground and the natural defences afforded by the escarpments of the *Holloway Rocks*, it is quite possible that *Caer Caradoc* was the real scene of the struggle, in which the British chief's wife and children were taken prisoners, while he escaped into the forest of Clun at the back.

At New Invention, 5 m., the road crosses a stream, and again ascends for 2½ m., when it descends the valley to

7 m. *Clun (Inn: Buffalo)*, one of the very quietest and most out-of-the-way of Shropshire towns, situated on the river *Colonne* or *Clone*, which is crossed by a high bridge of

unequally-sized arches. In fact, the "sleepy hollow"-ness of the district is described in a popular dog-grel:—

"Clunton and Clunbury,
Clungunford and Clun
Are the quietest places
Under the Sun."

But it was not always so, having been, as a border town, the scene of continual forays and incursions. The *Castle*, of which sufficient is left to show its former importance, was built by *Fitzalan*, afterwards *Earl of Arundel*, in the reign of *Stephen*. It is believed to have been the original of the "*Garde Doloreuse*" to which *Raymond Berenger* invited *Gwenwyn*, the *Prince of Powys*; which *Sir Walter Scott* has thus described in his "*Betrothed*":—

"A place strong by nature and well fortified by art, which the *Welch Prince* had found it impossible to conquer either by open force or stratagem, and which, remaining with a strong garrison in his rear, often checked his invasions by rendering his retreat precarious. The river washes on three sides the brow of the proud eminence on which the *Castle* is situated, curves away from the fortress and its corresponding village on the W., and the hill sinks downwards to an extensive plain, so extremely level as to indicate its alluvial origin." *Clun Castle* was dismantled first of all by *Owain Glyndwr* in his rebellion against *Henry IV.*, and afterwards blown up by the *Parliamentary forces*. The banquetting hall is still left, with the sleeping apartments above. There are also the halves of two strong postern towers.

The *Church* is interesting, but in sad condition. The chancel is *Norm.*, while the nave is of a later date, and has evidently undergone many alterations. The *Lychgate* is old and curious.

Distances.—Clunton, 2½ m.; Clunbury, 5 m.; Bury Ditches, 3 m.

The road to Bishop's Castle, 6 m., is through a very picturesque and diversified country. It ascends a hill for 2 m., where the antiquary should turn to the rt. for 1½ m. to visit the

Bury Ditches, situated at the summit of a considerable hill. They are elliptical in form, and enclose an area of some 3 or 4 acres. Mr. Wright believes them to be of Saxon date and origin, and thinks that they are not so much a camp as the remains of the house of a Saxon chief, dating probably from about the 6th centy. "It was the Saxon method to build a wooden house on some elevated position, and make a large enclosure, protected by a regular vallum and ditch, to defend it from attacks from without. The great strength of the enclosure here would be explained by its being so close to the borders of Wales, and therefore very liable to attack."—*Trans. Woolhope Club*.

Whatever may be the origin of these curious earthworks, there is a magnificent view from the summit, especially on the E. towards the Longmynd and the Stiper Stones. The botanist will meet with the oak fern and the pricklyshield fern (*Polystichum aculeatum*); also *Fedia ditoria* (lamb's lettuce), *Dianthus caryophyllus* (wild clove pink), and *Bidens cernua* (nodding sun-mari-gold).

On the E. side of the slopes of Bury Ditches is *Walcot Park*, the beautiful residence of the Earl of Powis, whose ancestor bought it from the Walcots in the last centy. The house is rather plain, of red brick, but the grounds are charming, and are ornamented with an artificial lake of considerable length.

6 m. *Bishop's Castle* (Inn: Castle) is as quiet a little town as Clun, and with less of interest. Its situation is picturesque on the summit and slopes of a hill, at the bottom of which, and almost outside the town, is the church, originally a Norman

building, which has been much altered. A few fragments remain of the old ch., which is said to have been burnt in the rebellion. There is a tradition that Bishop's Castle extended much further to the S., probably arising from the position of the church. Of the Castle, which belonged to the Bishops of Hereford, there is no trace. Its site is a bowling-green attached to the inn. At Bishop's Castle was born Jeremiah Stephens, 1664, a prebendary of Biggleswade, and colleague of Sir Henry Spelman in his work on the English Councils.

[From Bishop's Castle a branch rly. runs to Craven Arms, passing, 1., *Oakeley House* (Rev. A. Oakeley), and, 2 m., *Lydlam Heath Stat.* 1 m. to the N. is the village of More, and the entrance of the avenue to *Linley Hall*, the seat of J. More, Esq. The family of More came over from Normandy with the Conqueror, and was early connected by marriage with Roger de Montgomery. They held lands in Shropshire, Cornwall, Cheshire, and Lancashire, ever since the first year of Henry II.'s reign, by the tenure of Grand Serjeantry. Of this family was Richard More, the friend of Sir Richard Harley, and M.P. for Bishop's Castle in the Long Parliament. His son defended Hopton Castle against the Royalists. The timber in the park is very beautiful, and the first larch ever planted in England was placed here by Robert More, the friend of Linnaeus, 1742. Remains of a Roman villa were discovered in the park on the banks of the Onny.

4 m. *Eaton Stat.*

5½ m. *Plowden Stat. Plowden Hall* is the seat of W. F. Plowden, Esq., whose family has been settled here since the siege of Acre. "There is an old tradition that an ancestor who was taken prisoner at the siege of Acre, vowed that if he ever obtained his liberty, he would build a

chapel when he returned to Plowden. He recovered his freedom, and built the chapel adjoining the parish ch. of Lydbury North, which has long been used as the burying-place of the family."—*Walford*.

7½ m. *Horderly Stat.*

11 m. CRAVEN ARMS JUNG. (Rte. 1).]

There are two roads from Bishop's Castle to Minsterley. 1. By Corndon—very picturesque, and the most suited to the pedestrian. 2. By Chirbury, 18 m., longer but more level.

1. Ascending the hill, the road passes, rt., *Oakeley House* (Rev. A. Oakeley), and at 1 m. turn to the rt. At Snead cross the Camlad, and a little beyond take the lane to the rt. This saves a long round of at least 2½ m. There is a fine camp immediately above Snead, and overlooking *Roveries*. The pedestrian will regain the main road not far from Hyssington and enter the picturesque district of *Corndon*, a district of much interest to the geologist. To the rt. are the outliers and the main ridge of the *Stiper Stones*, a long range of hills running nearly due N. and S., and forming the western face of the chain, of which the Longmynd over *Church Stretton* (Rte. 1) forms the eastern. "These stony masses appear to the artist like insulated Cyclopean ruins jutting out upon a lofty moorland ridge at heights varying from 1500 to 1611 ft. above the sea. On reaching the summit the traveller sees below him to the W. a rapid slope and beyond it a picturesque hilly tract, the strata of which are laden with lower Silurian fossils and diversified by a variety of rocks of igneous origin. The *Stiper Stones* are outstanding fragments of a thick band of silicious sandstone. Though in parts veined, altered and fractured, and occasionally passing into

quartz rock, they yet form an integral portion of the outlying schistose formation, while fragments of the shells called *Lingula* occur in them. The rock has all the appearance of having been altered by the influence of the heat which must have accompanied the evolutions of those igneous rocks (chiefly greenstone) which occur on both sides the ridge."—*Siluria*. The *Corndon Mountain*, which is a most conspicuous and picturesque feature on the l. of the road, facing the *Stiper Stones*, is a mass of eruptive trap, and the ground around its base is composed of alternations of Llandeilio rocks with bands of felspathic ash. As is so often the case in eruptive districts, mineral veins are frequent, and a considerable amount of lead ore has been raised. The principal mines are the *Snailbeach* and *Bog* mines, the yield for 1866 having been 3275 tons. The former, which belongs to the Marquis of Bute, is very deep.

Some interesting early remains are to be found at the S.E. of the *Corndon Mt.* The *Marsh Pool* circle consisted of 32 upright stones. The *Whelstones* are 3 in number, which probably formed a portion of a larger circle. *Mitchell's Fold* consists of 14, disposed in an irregular circle, 90 ft. from N. to S., and 85 ft. from E. to W. There is a second circle near it. It is not known who *Mitchell* was, but there is a curious tradition that a giant used to milk his cow here, which was unusually productive, till one day an old hag attempted to milk her in a riddle. The cow became disgusted, and wandered away into Warwickshire, where she became famous under the name of the *Dun Cow*. Mr. *Hartshorne* sees in these circles a very great resemblance to the remains at *Stanton Drew* and *Abury*.

The *White Grit* mine is passed close to the road on right at the S. end of *Shelve Hill*. There are also lead-mines on *Stapeley Hill*, oppo-

sito. 2 or 3 m. further on, the road runs through a long and romantic defile as it descends from the hilly ground into the open, which it re-enters at

13 m. *Minsterley.*

2. The other route from Bishop's Castle also passes through Snead, where it enters an outlying corner of Montgomeryshire, and follows the course of the *Camlad.*

At 4 m. *Broadway* (John Owen, Esq.) the road on rt. goes off to Hyssington and Minsterley. *Hyssington Ch.* is remarkable for several cracks in the walls, caused, according to a local legend, by an enormous bull, which was the terror of the surrounding country, and which grew bigger and bigger every day. At last the people got the parson of Hyssington to exorcise him; whereupon, by constant reading of texts, the beast shrank into dimensions sufficiently small to allow of his being driven into the ch. Unfortunately, before he was completely extinguished, the parson's candle burnt out, and, ere the morning came, when the reading could be resumed, the bull swelled out again until he burst the church walls. In this story we again have the fable of the Dun Cow. Near Hyssington is an earthwork known as *Simond's Castle.*

5½ m. *Churchstoke*, a pretty village at the junction of the *Camlad*, *Cnebitra*, and *Lach Brooks*, which, still under the name of the former stream, flow due N. through a charming and picturesque glen known as *Marrington Dingle.* *Marrington Hall*, the grounds of which extend along the W. bank, is the seat of J. Davics, Esq.

8½ m. *Chirbury* is supposed to have once been the site of a castle built by Æthelfled, a Queen of Mercia. However that may be, the celebrity of Chirbury arises from its having been the residence of Lord Herbert of Chirbury, who was born in 1851

at Montgomery Castle. He was one of the most polished ornaments of the Court of James I., and in addition to his military services in the Netherlands, was, like his brother George Herbert, a man of mark in literature. It was here that he wrote his work 'De Veritate,' with a view to prove the uselessness of revelation. The ch. was built in 1127 by Humphry de Winsbury, sheriff of the county.

[2½ m. distant on the W. is *Montgomery* (*Hotels*: Dragon, Wynnstay Arms). See *Handbook for North Wales.* The road to it crosses *Offa's Dyke*, which here forms the boundary line between Wales and Salop.] Passing 9 m. l. *Walcot* (the Earl of Powis), the road runs N.E., and at 11 m. joins the high road between Shrewsbury and Newtown. 12 m. rt. is a considerable sheet of water, known as *Marion Pool*; and on the l. is the wild and hilly district of the *Long Mount*, which separates the valleys of the *Rea* and the *Severn.*

14 m. *Brockton*, where the *Minsterley* road turns off, and crosses the *Rea.*

18 m. *Minsterley*, from whence a branch of the London and North-Western runs to Shrewsbury, 10 m. Mr. Eyton thinks that *Minsterley* was the mother ch. of Westbury and Habberley. It is of the date of the 16th centy.

1½ m. *Pontesbury Stat.*, 2 m. of which is a camp overlooking the village of *Habberley.* The Hall (W. H. Sparrow, Esq.). *Pontesbury Ch.* was collegiate, and has a broad nave with aisles and a tower of 3 stages on the N. side between the nave and chancel. A little to the S. of *Habberley* is *Maratly*, identified by Mr. Eyton as the park of *Marsetalie*, mentioned in *Domesday.* "It is recorded among the ancient customs of Shrewsbury that when the King visited the town, the sheriff used to send 36 footmen

as his body-guard (ad stabitationem) for so long as he remained there. But for the Park of Marsetalie, he used customarily to find 36 men for eight days." The adjoining district is named Hockestow Forest in Saxton's survey.

3 m. *Plealey Road Stat.*

5 HANWOOD Stat., where a junction is formed with the Cambrian line to Welshpool and Aberystwith. *Hanwood Ch.* contains an interesting font, ornamented with a kind of Vandyck pattern.

10 m. (from Minsterley) Shrewsbury (Rte. 8).

3 m. on rt. are the woods of *Stanage Park* in Herefordshire (Rev. J. Rogers). There was formerly a "Haye" or enclosure maintained here, "and as appears by an inquest taken in Feb., 1295, on the death of Brian de Brompton, there was a park called Ammareslit. The writ ordering an inquest taken in Dec., 1308, had directed the jurors to value the late Brian de Brompton's manor of Ambreslyth, but the jurors explained, that Ambreslyth was no manor, but only a park pertaining to the manor of Stanegge, separately worth 20s. per annum." Crossing the Teme the line reaches

4 m. *Bucknall Stat.* Overlooking it is the wooded eminence of *Coxwall Knoll*, which has always been a fruitful source of discussion with antiquaries, as the probable locale of the last battle of Caractacus with the Romans under Ostorius. The proximity of *Caer Caradoc* (Rte. 5) renders it tolerably certain that the battle was fought in this vicinity; and the whole description of Tacitus tallies with the appearance of Coxwall Knoll. Moreover, spear points and stone balls, evidently projected from engines, have been found under the N.W. of the hill, and the site of a Roman camp is only some 4 m. distant at Brandon (Brandovium), near Leintwardine. The principal objection to Coxwall is the sentence in Tacitus, which says "Ostorius transfert bellum in Ordovices."—whereas all these localities are in the country of the Silures. But as the historian was not an eye witness, but wrote his account from hearsay, this point is not at all conclusive. Passing the village of Bedstone, and under the wooded brow of Hopton Hill (1.), the line reaches

7 m. *Hopton Heath Stat.* About 1 m. l. is *Hopton Castle*, where a small square keep of remarkably good workmanship of Decorated date still exists. It was stubbornly de-

ROUTE 6.

FROM KNIGHTON TO WELLINGTON BY CRAVEN ARMS, WENLOCK AND COALBROOK DALE.

From Knighton (Rte. 6) to Craven Arms the journey is performed by the Central Wales Rly., thence by the Great Western to Wenlock and Wellington.

The Central Wales Line, which runs to Llandoverly and Swansea (*Handbook for South Wales*) leaves Knighton and keeps close to the Teme, the valley of which is very charming. On l. is Stow Hill and the Holloway Rocks (Rte. 5), and

fended during a fortnight's siege by the Royalists, and was then taken and destroyed. The Governor, Samuel More, was confined in Ludlow Castle. On rt. *Heath House* (T. S. Beale, Esq.) and *Broadwood Hall*, and further on (rt.) *Clungunford* village and *House* (J. Roche, Esq.), and *Ferney Hall* (W. Sitwell, Esq.). A tumulus was opened some years ago close to Clungunford ch. by the late Rev. J. Roche, who found bones and pottery in it.

9½ m. *Brooms Stat.* 12¼ m. CRAVEN ARMS JUNC. (Rte. 1). Near the village of Wistanstow, between Craven Arms and Marshbrook, the Great Western Rly. branch to Wenlock turns off to the rt., running up the valley of the Eaton brook, and at the foot of the wooded terracelike ridge of Wenlock Edge, which divides Apedale from Corve Dale.

[The lover of quiet, pastoral scenery, where the sound of the rly. whistle has not yet been heard, will do well to ascend Corve Dale to Wenlock, the distance from Craven Arms being about 20 m. The antiquary will find much to interest him in the quaint country churches, besides some interesting fortifications and earthworks. The road passes immediately under Norton Camp, and enters the Dale, leaving to the rt. the village of *Culmington* on the Corve River, the ch. of which has a double piscina. Still further to the rt. is *Sutton Court* (C. Powell, Esq.), at the foot of Sutton Hill. 5 m. *Diddebury* or *Delbury*, the ch. of which contains some Early Norm. details. The Hall is the seat of Herbert Cornwall, Esq. On the opposite bank of the Corve are some earthworks known as *Cortham*, or *Corfham*, Castle, which, with the manor, was given to Walter de Clifford, father of Fair Rosamond, it is supposed, as some compensation for her frailty. Between *Cortham* and the Brown

Clee Hill is the *Heath*. The ch., or rather the chapel, is a singular old Norm. building with a nave and chancel, but no tower or bell turret. Externally the buttresses are very characteristic of the Norm. era, and there is a good Norm. doorway with circular-headed arch and moulding. The E. end is lighted by 4 very small Norm. windows, one of which pierces the buttress. 7 m., at *Munslow*, the road and river approach each other. The ch. has an E.E. chancel and nave with a chapel attached, a south porch, and a low W. tower. A little further on, at *Millichope*, is an old house, the lower story of which appears to have been used as a barn, and the upper as a dwelling-house. The architecture of the door and window is that of the 13th cent., though the stones which now form the head of the arch are evidently not *in situ*. *Millichope Park* (C. O. Childe Pemberton, Esq.), was formerly the seat of the Mores, as far back as Henry VIII.; and in the garden is a memorial temple to two members of this family, who died in the last century in the naval and military services.

11 m. To rt. 1½ m. is *Holgate*, the former site of a castle of the same name. *Helgot* was an obscure Norm. chief, who owned sway in this upper part of Corve Dale. *Holgate CA.* has a beautiful Norm. door with 4 series of semicircular mouldings of the richest type. The shafts have plain friezes and richly carved capitals. The font is peculiar—a broad open basin with a narrow neck, mounted on a series of steps. It is ornamented with interlaced mouldings and figures of birds. Keeping on the l. side of the Dale, the road reaches *Shipton* and *Shipton Hall* (T. Mytton, Esq.).

15 m. *Brocton*, from whence the antiquary can diverge to the hill above the road to inspect the circular fortification of the *Ditches*. 2 m. rt. of *Brocton* is *Ozenbold*, the ancient

residence of the Priors of Wenlock. Part of the chapel, of the date of the 13th centy., still remains. The Hall, with the cellar underneath it, has been modernised.

17 m. Burton. *Burton Cottage* (Lord Wenlock). 20 m. *Wenlock.*]

The rly. takes a course on the other or northern side of the Wenlock Edge, passing 6 m. *Harton Stat.*, and 8½ m. *Bushbury Stat.* It is a charming walk of 2 m. to *Cardington* (where the Knights Templars possessed property), and thence to Church Stretton over Cardington and Hope Bowdler Hills.

10½ m. *Longville Stat.* 2 m. to l is an old house called *Plash*, of Tudor date, chiefly of brick, with fine stacks of moulded chimneys. Some of the rooms are oak-pannelled and picked out with gold stars. The kitchen has some fine oak carving, and the hall an open timber-work roof. Saxton mentions that there was a park here.

2 m. further N. is *Church Preen*, the ch. of which has a good oak pulpit, marked R. T. 1641. A stone building adjoins the ch., which looks as if it had formed part of some monastic building. 1½ m. to the N. is *Langley Hall*, the old gate-house of which is left, chiefly of Elizabethan timber-work, with an earlier sub-structure and embattled wall.—*Parker.*

12½ m. *Easthope Stat.* Overlooking the rly. is *Lutwyche Hall*, the beautiful seat of M. Benson, Esq., placed on the edge of the hill, and ornamented with quaint terrace gardens. On the hill above is the circular camp known as *The Ditches*. It includes 8 acres, and is nearly a circle in shape. It is surrounded by an outer and inner fosse, and 2 valla, and is in immediate view of Nordy Bank, besides coming within the observation of the *Caer Caradoc*, Bury Ditches, and the *Wrekin* defensive stations.

15 m. *Presthope Stat.*, 3 m. to the

N. of which is the village of *Kenley*, where Sir A. Alison, the historian, was born. His father was rector in 1792, and wrote here his 'Letters on Taste.'

18 m. *Wenlock or Much Wenlock Stat.* (*Inn, Wynnstay Arms.*) The town of Wenlock, according to Camden "famous for limestone, but formerly in King Richard II.'s time for a copper mine," is situated on high and exposed ground near the northern end of Wenlock Edge, and this position obtained for it, as we are informed in the 'Monasticon,' the name of "Winnica" or winding place. It is now little more than a village, which would scarcely be noticeable, were it not for the beautiful ruins of the *Abbey*, once one of the richest and most important priories in England. But previous to this date, Wenlock was a place of much renown, from its having been the seat of a nunnery, and the burial place of St. Milburgh, granddaughter of Penda, King of Mercia. Whatever might have been the extent of this establishment, all traces were destroyed (it was supposed) by the Danes in the 9th centy., although 200 years afterwards it was again chosen for a ch. by Leofric, Earl of Mercia, and his wife Godiva, of Coventry fame, in the time of King Edward the Confessor. But this second Saxon foundation scarcely lasted above 30 years, and we find that its priories were placed at the disposal of Roger de Montgomery, one of the Conqueror's followers, who about the year 1080 founded the present Abbey for Benedictines, which was affiliated upon the great mother Abbey of Clugny. The conventual ch. was formerly dedicated to the Holy Trinity, but as the tradition of St. Milburgh's death and burial still remained, it was too valuable a suggestion not to be utilized, and we accordingly find that a boy, running over the site of the proposed

building, trod upon the saint's tomb, which instantly became endowed with miraculous virtues and gave forth balsamic exhalations. These odours, according to William of Malmesbury, were so powerful as to cure persons afflicted with king's evil: "regius morbus medicis sane incurabilis." This followed upon the translation of St. Milburgh's relics in 1101. From that time the priory increased in riches and importance till the reign of Edward III., when it was seized by the Crown. In Richard II.'s reign it was declared denizen and ceased to be dependent on any foreign house. At the Dissolution the body consisted of a prior, 21 friars, and 11 monks. The ruins, which include 30 acres, are close to the parish ch.-yd., and consist of a portion of the S. side of the nave, a fragment of the N. transept, a larger portion of the S. transept, the chapter-house, and the Prior's apartments. Sufficient of the foundations remain to show that the total length of the ch. was 401 ft. Of the W. front, which is E. Eng. the great W. window is gone, and there only remains one small one of geometrical style, "that is, a single arch, enclosing two lancet lights, the head filled with an open circle, the jambs of the windows furnished with slender columns, and the arch divided into mouldings." The remains of the nave (S. side) are 3 pointed arches, with a triforium of lancet arches, and above them again a row of clerestory windows. The pillars of the nave support a groined roof, the floor of one apartment lighted by the W. window just mentioned. The S. transept has also 3 arches with clustered columns, and a triforium above. Of the centre tower only the bases of the 4 piers remain, at the intersection of the nave and transepts.

The chapter-house was entered from the cloister by a circular-headed doorway, which with the windows

on either side are ornamented with chevron mouldings. The most perfect portion is the N. and S. wall—"at about 3 ft. from the floor is a projection having a chevron moulding, from which rise two clusters of six small round shafts which divide the space into 3 compartments of 15 ft. These columns are 5 ft. high and have capitals variously ornamented, from which issue a corresponding number of ribs which formed the groined roof. In the spaces between the clusters of columns are 5 small circular arches, resting on columns consisting of 3 shafts, above which, up to the groining of the roof, the space is covered by rows of intersecting arches, each springing from the intersecting point of the arches beneath them. This beautiful specimen of Norm. architecture is probably the work of Roger de Montgomery, and from the bases of 6 plain Norm. pillars which a few years ago were to be seen in the choir, it is probable that it also was of the same date." *E. S. A.*, 'Arch. Cambrensis.' To the S. of the chapter-house is the prior's residence (now inhabited by Mr. Gaskell, late M.P. for Wenlock), which seems to have occupied a quadrangle, though only one side is now left. "It consists of a building of 2 stories surmounted by a very high roof, and contains some of the principal apartments. Its whole length is about 100 ft., and it has a light and elegant open cloister extending the whole length and communicating with the rooms on either floor. The cloister is divided into compartments by large buttresses at regular intervals, and these again are subdivided into 2 compartments by smaller buttresses, the space between being filled in with 2 trefoil-headed lights, and divided horizontally by a transom. The arrangement is the same for the lower story."—*A. C.* Notice the water-drains from the upper rooms, carved

with lions' heads and grotesque figures. On the ground floor is also the kitchen, now a brewhouse, and opening into it is what Mr. Parker calls a *garde-robe*, which often occurs in mediæval buildings. Next to this is what was once the bakehouse, succeeded by a small modernised room. At the end is the oratory or prior's private chapel, which contains an altar, open underneath for the reception of relics, and a stone reading-desk, rudely carved with Norm. foliage. The abbot's Hall is a fine room of 3 bays, lighted by 4 windows of 2 lights each, on the 1st floor, over which is now the kitchen. This was not the refectory of the abbey, but merely a private dining-room. It contains a fireplace of late date, and a drain at the N. E. angle, ending in a lion's head.

A flowered cornice runs round the top of the wall, and the roof is of oak, of great beauty of construction and design. Adjoining the Hall is the abbot's parlour. Mr. Blore considers the age of the building to be about the middle of the 15th centy., although "the roof indicates an age anterior to the date of the building of which it forms a part." A large portion of the abbey was pulled down many years ago by a Vandal in the shape of a house agent, but further ruin was stopped by the then Sir W. W. Wynne.

The *parish ch.*, which closely adjoins the abbey ruins, is of mixed style, from Norm. to Dec., and consists of chancel, nave, and aisles, with a low tower and spire. The only other object of antiquity is the Guildhall, a timber building with a piazza; for, notwithstanding its small size, Wenlock is a corporate borough, a charter having been granted to it by Edward IV. The council chamber contains some interesting carved oak furniture.

Rly. from Wenlock to Craven Arms, 18 m., and to Buildwas Junc.

3 m., there meeting the Severn Valley line.

Distances.—Broseley, 4 m.; Coalbrook Dale, 6 m.

2 m. E. of Wenlock is *Barrow*, the (restored) *ch.* of which is also Norm., although very plain. The windows are semicircular and deeply splayed. At the restoration, a fresco was discovered under the plaster, of a full-size knight on horseback. Tom Moody, a well known huntsman of Lord Forester, was buried here in 1796. Barrow is about 1 m. from Willey Park, the seat of Lord Forester (Rte. 4).

From Wenlock the rly. passes several lime-works and begins its descent through a pretty wooded country to BUILDWAS JUNC. [The remainder of this route is described in Rte. 4.]

ROUTE 7.

FROM WOLVERHAMPTON TO NANTWICH BY SHIFFNALL, WELLINGTON AND MARKET DRAYTON.

Great Western Railway.

Quitting Wolverhampton by the Great Western Rly. (Low-level Stat.), the traveller passes $4\frac{1}{2}$ m. *Codsall Stat.* (*Handbook for Staffordshire*), and enters the county of Salop a little before reaching *Abrighton Stat.* 6 m.

Albrighton, which closely adjoins Donington, is a place of considerable antiquity, and is supposed to derive its name from the Saxon Lord Albericus. However this may be, it is certain that mention is made of Nicholas, priest of Alberitone in the year 1186, which is about the date of some portions of the ch. It has a low Norm. west tower, the upper portion of later date than the lower, and on each side the window is perforated by a singular circular opening.

The E. window is Dec., with good tracery, but nevertheless has a transom. There is a S. aisle with a 3-light window, and a rose-light above it. In the interior of the ch. is a fine altar-tomb, discovered during the operation of lowering the floor of the S. aisle. It is ornamented with an E.E. window and numerous armorial bearings. It is not known to whose memory it was erected. There was another fine marble altar-tomb; but that has disappeared since 1700, and was probably broken up. *Albrighton Hall* is the residence of — Barber, Esq. Leland mentions an old Park here—"Syr John Talbot that married Troutbekes heire dwelleth in a goodlie logge in the hy toppe of Albrighton Parke, it is in the very egge of Shropshire, 3 m. from Tunge."

3 m. to the S., just within the borders of Staffordshire, is *Patsull*, the beautiful seat of the Earl of Dartmouth. This property belonged in the 17th and 18th centys. to the family, of Astley, who erected the house in the Vanbrugh style, but afterwards sold it to the Pigots, who in their turn disposed of it to the late Earl of Dartmouth. His son, the present possessor, has greatly improved the house (under *Burn*), which consists of a centre and wings of red stone, the latter carried up so as to overtop the former. The gardens are charming, and the park contains most picturesque scenery and a serpentine

sheet of water, terminating in a lake. From the situation of the house on a raised mound in a very elevated portion of the park, it commands an extensive view over Shropshire and Cheshire. Above it is a belt of woodland, surrounding the old half-timbered hall, now a farm-house; in the yard behind is a curious stone font.

Patsull Ch. is an Italian building of the close of the 17th centy., and is entered by a portico, with an armed figure in one corner. It has 2 altar-tombs:—1. To Sir John Astley and his wife (temp. Henry VII.), with panels of his 7 sons and 8 daughters. 2. Sir Richard Astley, recumbent between his 2 wives. A squadron of horse is depicted on this tomb. There are also monuments to the Pigot family. The ch. is filled with stained glass, memorials to former Earls of Dartmouth. To the S.E. of Patsull is

Pattingham, a fine old ch. of different dates. The nave is Norm., the chancel E.E., and the S. aisle Dec. It has been well restored by *Scott*.

A most interesting excursion can be made from Codsall or Albrighton stations to Boscobel and White Ladies, N. of the rly., returning by Tonge. From Codsall the way to Boscobel (4 m.) lies through a pretty open country, skirting the woods of Chillington to 3 m. Langley. In the distance on rt. is Brewood spire.

From Albrighton the visitor may pass *Donington*, the ch. of which has some good stained glass, or he may proceed direct from the stat. to

Shakerley, the seat of W. Horton, Esq. 1 m. beyond is *White Ladies*, in the wooded district formerly known as Brewood Forest. Here are the ruins of an ancient convent for Cistercian nuns, founded in the reign of Richard I. Contemporaneous with it was the monastic establishment of the Black Ladies for Benedictine nuns, near Brewood, in the adjoin-

ing county of Stafford. The ruins of the White Ladies are not large, and consist principally of a wall, a portion of which belonged to the Norm. chapel, and some circular-headed arches. "On the N. side is an open round arch, which might have led into a transept or chapel." The visitor will soon come in sight of the ancient though altered mansion of *Boscobel*, "the scene of such romance, heroism, loyalty, and other noble qualities, as will always command admiration even from those who condemn the cause in which such virtues are exercised." Hither it was that after the sanguinary battle of Worcester in 1651 the unfortunate monarch, Charles II., rode up, closely pursued by Cromwell's troopers, who were scouring the country in all directions. In *Boscobel* wood lived William Penderel, a woodcutter, while his brother Richard lived at Hobbal Grange, about 1 m. to the W. To these rough and uneducated peasants was the fugitive King committed by the Earl of Derby, who had before now been sheltered in this district, and no men could have carried out these instructions with greater loyalty or at greater personal risk. As Col. Ashenhurst's troop was quartered at Codsall, no time was to be lost, and the King, having disguised himself by exchanging his clothes for a coarse country suit, cutting off his locks and rubbing his hands against the chimney, was conducted by Richard Penderel into the fastnesses of the *Boscobel* woods, while his other brother acted as scout. "The heavens wept bitterly at these calamities, insomuch that the thickest tree in the wood was not able to keep his Majesty dry, nor was there anything for him to sit upon; whereupon Richard went to Francis Yates's house (a trusty neighbour who married his wife's sister), where he borrowed a blanket, which he folded and laid on the ground for his Majesty to sit on. At

the same time Richard spoke to the goodwife Yates to provide some victuals and bring it into the wood at a place he appointed her. She presently made ready a mess of milk and some butter and eggs, and brought them to his Majesty in the wood, who being a little surprised to see the woman (no good concealer of a secret), said cheerfully to her, 'Good woman, can you be faithful to a distressed cavalier?' She answered, 'Yes, Sir, I will die rather than discover you;' with which answer his Majesty was well satisfied."—*Blount*.

That night the King was conducted by Richard to the Severn to endeavour to make his escape into Wales; but finding the roads guarded in every direction, it was thought advisable to return to *Boscobel*. At three in the morning they reached it, and there found Col. Carless, a fugitive loyalist; but it being deemed too hazardous for the King's shelter, he was taken to the wood and raised into the oak-tree, when "the Colonel humbly desired his Majesty (who had taken little or no rest the two preceding nights) to seat himself as easily as he could in the tree and rest his head on the Colonel's lap, who was watchful that his Majesty should not fall; and in this position his Majesty slumbered away some part of the day, and bore all these hardships and afflictions with incomparable patience." The tree now known as Charles's oak is only a descendant of the original, which must have been much further from the *Boscobel* House than the present one—indeed the whole of *Boscobel* Forest is a thing of the past, and it would be difficult for anyone, be he king or peasant, to conceal himself here now-a-days. The house is the property of the Misses Evans, of Darley, near Derby, and is kept in exquisite order. It is not shown after 5 o'clock P.M. In the drawing-room, which is panelled with oak, is a portrait of the King; the mantelpiece also of black

marble has some excellently-sculptured scenes of his escapes. In the adjoining room is a portrait of Cromwell. In the garret is the hollow chest in which the King took his rest, after it was thought prudent for him to leave the protection of the wood, and in one of the bedrooms is a small chamber, in the thickness of the chimney, which communicates with the garden outside. The Earl of Derby and probably many other loyal fugitives had taken advantage of it before. The garden is well kept in all its quaint formality, and harmonizes with the old-fashioned timber house. In it still stands the arbour, where the King sat and read on the Sunday while waiting the return of John Penderel, who had been sent to Moseley to apprise Lord Wilmot of what had happened, to which place his Majesty was conveyed that very night. A portrait of Dame Penderel, mother of the loyal peasants, dated 1662, is in the possession of a Mr. Oare, of the Green, Bridgnorth.

From Boscobel the tourist can proceed eastwards to Brewwood (*Habk. for Staffordshire*), or return in the opposite direction for $3\frac{1}{2}$ m. to the village of Tonge, passing at the foot of Tonge Knoll, on the summit of which is a clump of Scotch fir-trees. From the knoll is a very charming view looking over the wooded park of *Weston*, or *Weston-under-Lezard*, the seat of the Earl of Bradford. The house is a large cheerful building, with no particular architectural features of interest; but the grounds and gardens are very pretty, and contain a conspicuous domed conservatory. Not far from the house is the *ch.*, in which are several monuments to the family of Bradford.

At Tonge Norton the road falls into the high-road from Wolverhampton to Newport, near a large sheet of water called Norton Mere, prettily

covered with water-lilies. From the l. towards the rly. and in about $\frac{1}{2}$ m. the visitor reaches the village of *Tonge*, celebrated for the beauty of its *ch.* and its modern *castle*, which has probably seen more changes than any place of the sort. "It is stated to have been anciently the seat of Hengist, the Saxon, whom Vortigern called in to his assistance, and having been successful in his warlike engagements, he afterwards begged of Vortigern as much land as an ox-hide could enclose. On his request being granted, he cut the hide into strips and had as much land as it encompassed, whereon he built the castle." —*Burke*. It afterwards came into the possession of the Pembreges, and subsequently the Vernons, by marriage of William Vernon, of Had-don, with Benedicta, sister and heir-ess of Sir Fulke Pembregge. The Stanleys were the next possessors by intermarriage with the Vernons, and it was purchased from them by Sir Thomas Harris, a lawyer, whose daughter married William Pier-point, and thus brought the property into the ducal family of Kingston. Evelyn, last Duke of Kingston, sold it in 1764 to George Durant; but that family, after a residence of nearly 100 years, has become extinct, and Tonge passed by purchase to its present possessor, the Earl of Bradford. George Durant was Paymaster of the Forces at the time of the capture of the Havannah in 1761, and is said to have amassed an enormous fortune by plunder, a great part of which he laid out in the purchase of this property. He demolished the old castle and erected the present one from his own designs,—one of those fantastic buildings of mixed Gothic and Moorish, with conspicuous Turkish domes. The incongruities, however, are partially softened by the warm red of the stone. The place is to a great extent surrounded by water, carried in artificial canals of great depth, and apparently cut

for the double purpose of defence and irrigation of the park. On the S. side, however, the river is dry and picturesquely overgrown with timber and brushwood. Here was a little stone cabin, called the *Hermitage*, long the residence of a poor crazed lunatic, who had been originally a butler and had saved money. But he soon lost it, and his wits went the same way. One of the most curious things about Tonge Castle is the entrance-gate, on which there is some extraordinary carving, such as a beehive, and also a most minute representation of the old castle.

Tonge Ch., in addition to its intrinsic interest and grandeur, is a perfect mausoleum of the Vernon family. It is a fine example of E. Perpend., consisting of nave, with very broad aisles, and a central octagonal tower, with low spire. The under stage of the tower is on a larger base than the middle, and is bevelled off at the sides. On the N. side of the chancel is the vestry, and there is a S. porch. On this same side is a chapel of later date, forming a kind of transept, and possessing a splendid fan-vaulted roof, all the others being of timber. In the interior is some finely-carved woodwork.

Amongst the tombs are an alabaster recumbent tomb, supposed to be that of Sir Richard Vernon and his wife Elizabeth. This was believed by Dugdale to belong to Sir Fulke Pembrugge, and by others to Sir Fulke Eyton. Also to William Skeffington, 1550,

“An esquire right hardy in the feilde
And faithful to his prince in quiet tymes
of peace.”

There is also one to Sir William Vernon and his wife Margaret, with their 12 children—a brass under each figure being engraven with a religious text. The epitaph on the tombstone of Sir Thomas Stanley is said on doubtful authority to have been written by Shakespeare. One

of the most interesting features is the great bell, 48 cwt. in weight, given by Sir Henry Vernon. He also gave “a rent out of his manor of Norton for tolling it when any Vernon came to town.” To the W. of the ch. are some ruined walls and an arch, probably a portion of the college which the Pembrugges are said to have founded here.

Adjoining the demesne of Tonge Castle is *Neachley* (G. Holyoake, Esq.). The whole round from Al-brighton to Boscobel and back by Tonge will be about 11 m.]

Continuing the route by rly., the traveller passes on 1.2 m. from Al-brighton, the pillar, 180 ft. high, of the Wolverhampton *Water-works*, erected at Cosford Bridge for the purpose of forcing the water up from the river Werf. It is taken to the reservoir at Tattenhall and thence to Wolverhampton. On rt. is Neachley and Tonge.

9 m. rt. *Ruckley Grange* (J. Jones, Esq.). The house is modern, but is supposed to have been built on the site of an old “grange,” or granary, belonging to Buildwas Abbey, to which it formed a sort of half-way house between Buildwas and Brewood Forest, where the monks had extensive rights of feeding swine and cutting timber.

On 1.1½ m. is *Hatton Grange* (J. Aglionby Slaney, Esq.), the grounds of which contain some magnificent beech-trees, and are adorned with deep picturesque pools, formed by the damming up of the Twybrook before it joins the Werf. The high ground to the rt. overlooking Ruckley and Shifnall is *Lezard Hill*, belonging to Lord Stafford, of Cossey.

11 m. The rly. now runs over a lofty bridge overlooking and dividing the quaint-looking town of *Shifnall* (*Inns*: Jerningham Arms, Star). The warm red-stone of which it is built, and an occasional timbered

house, give it a peculiarly snug and old-fashioned appearance.

The *ch.* is an old cruciform building of several architectural dates. It consists of nave, with aisles, N. and S. transept, chancel (added to which is a S. chapel, called the Moreton chapel), a central tower, and S. porch. Part of the S. transept, of the N. wall of the chancel, and the chancel-arch itself, are of transition Norm. to E.E., the latter ornamented with dog-tooth moulding. The S. porch is also E.E., and has a singular parvise or upper story. The outer door has a trefoiled arch. The nave, chancel, and central tower are Dec.; the N. aisle has some late windows inserted, and the central tower has a wide stair-turret at the N.W. angle.

The Moreton chapel is of late Dec. date, and has good flowing tracery. The N. transept is altogether Perp., as are also the windows and parapet of the S. transept. The portion of the S. aisle between the porch and the transept is as late as the 16th centy.—*Rev. J. L. Petit.*

On the western face of the chancel-arch is a finial, with a very curious sculptured head and a stalk proceeding from the mouth. Amongst the monuments are some to the family of Briggs and to Thomas Foster, once Prior of Wombridge and Warden of Tonge. The salubrity of the neighbourhood is shown by 2 inscriptions—one to Wm. Wakeley, d. 1714, aged 123, and another to Mary Yates, 127. Amongst the celebrities of Shiffnall were Tom Brown, a licentious poet of the 17th centy., and Dr. Beddoes, a noted chemist and man of science, 1754. There are many nice residences immediately adjoining Shiffnall:—*Aston Hall* (Major Moultrie); *Decker Hill* (Rev. W. Garnett Botfield); *Haughton Hall* (Rev. J. Brooke), of which records remain from the date 1268, when it was called *Haleston*, and was the property

of Sir Hugh de Halestone. An excursion should by all means be made to *Brimstree Hill*, 1 m. to the S., from the summerhouse on which, though the elevation is not great, one of the finest views in the country is to be obtained, extending into Worcestershire, Staffordshire, and Wales. From Shiffnall the tourist can proceed by a branch line to Coalbrook Dale, through *Madeley*, where formerly existed a park belonging to the Prior and Convent of Wenlock, and licensed by King Edward I. in 1283.

At 13 m. the rly. ascends the hilly district between Shiffnall and Wellington, at the northern portion of the Shropshire coal-field. On rt. is *Priorslee Hall* (T. Horton, Esq.). It obtains its name from once being the residence of the Prior of a house of Augustine Canons, founded at Wombridge (a little to the N.) in the reign of Stephen. On l. is *Malin's Lee*, where are the remains of an Early Norm. chapel, with 3 narrow deeply-splayed windows. Its founder is not known. Although naturally the district is broken and hilly, it is far from inviting, owing to the dreary aspect of the collieries, many of which are worked out, and the squalid tumbledown look of the houses.

15 m. *Oakengates Stat.* Here the Lond. and N.-W. branch from Coalport crosses the line on its way to join the Shropshire Union Rly. A little farther on (rt.) is *Wombridge*. In a garden here are slight remains of the monastery of Canons Regular, founded by William FitzAlan of Clun in the 12th centy.

18 m. WELLINGTON JUNC., where the latter line from Stafford (Rte. 8) joins the Great Western, both using the same rails from Wellington to Shrewsbury. From hence also the Market Drayton and Nantwich branch is given off.

The town of *Wellington* (*Hotel: Wrekin*, good and reasonable) in itself does not possess very much to detain the tourist, although there is an evident attempt to accommodate modern improvements to the narrow and crooked streets of former days. It was noted during the Rebellion for being the first place of rendezvous of Charles I., who marched his forces here Sept. 19, 1642, and then and there delivered an address. The *ch.* is modern, and is only noteworthy for its extreme ugliness, and its containing a good deal of iron in its composition. *Wellington* has become a place of considerable trade of late years, it being the metropolis for all the northern district of the Shropshire coal-fields and a considerable agricultural population to the N. and W.

1 m. N. of the town is *Apley Castle*, the seat of St. John Charlton, Esq. The house is plain, of the beginning of the present century, but it is situated in a finely wooded park. Slight remains exist of the old castle, which underwent a siege by the Parliamentary forces in the Civil War. It is thus mentioned by Richard Baxter, who married into the Charlton family:—"But it being in the heat of the civil war, Robert, her brother, being for the Parliament, had the advantage of strength, which put her (his wife's mother) to seek relief at Oxford from the King, and afterwards to marry one Mr. Harmer, who was for the King, to make her interest that way. Her house, being a sort of small castle, was garrisoned for the King. But at last Robert procured it to be besieged by the Parliamentary soldiers, and stormed and taken when the mother and children were there, and saw part of their building burnt and some lye dead before their eyes, and so Robert got possession of the children."

The great attraction of *Wellington*

is of course the *Wrekin*, which raises its huge dome some two miles to the S. Although of no very great height—only 1260 feet above the Severn, and 1320 above the sea—it is conspicuous far and wide, and forms an unmistakable landmark in every phase of Shropshire scenery. Such a vast tract of country comes under its ken that the old Shropshire toast of "All round the Wrekin" has almost become a proverb. The visitor takes the Shrewsbury road for 1 m., passing *Orleton*, the seat of the Hon. R. Herbert, and then turns off to the N.E. by a lane which leads to the foot of the hill. The Halfway House affords a resting-place to the tired pedestrian, and a convenient rendezvous for picnic parties. "The Wrekin, one of the most remarkable examples of eruptive trap in England, is an elliptical hill about 1½ m. in length, composed of igneous rocks, having on its flank various members of the Silurian and Carboniferous systems. The sedimentary deposits within the influence of the eruptive volcanic rocks have undergone considerable alteration, the sandstone being changed into granitic quartz rock, much of which is pure white quartz with particles of decomposed felspar. To the S.E. bosses of a basaltic greenstone, of irregular shape, appear round the valleys of Little Wenlock."—*Mantell*. The view is remarkably beautiful, embracing the whole of Shropshire, the ranges of Church Stretton, the Longmynd, and the Stiper Stones, the Welsh mountains, in which the Breiddens, the Berwyns, and in the far distance Snowdon, are conspicuous, the hills of N.E. Cheshire and Derbyshire, the heights of Cannock Chase, the Clent and Rowley Hills, Titterstone Clee and the Malverns, while within the radius is a wonderful panorama of Black country and Shropshire hedgerows—towns, villages, churches, ironworks, mansions, rivers, canals, and railways—

an epitome of English life and industry. Some ancient British works exist on the Wrekin. Ascending from the S.E. side, a ditch is crossed near the summit. The entrance gate was on the N., and known as Heaven Gate. The other, which is overgrown with plantation, was Hell Gate. If the tourist does not wish to return to Wellington, he can descend on the eastern side and make his way by Little Wenlock to Coalbrook Dale or Buildwas, the distance to either being between 3 and 4 m.

Rlys. from Wellington to Wolverhampton, 20 m.; Stafford, 19; Shrewsbury, 10; Coalbrook Dale, 5; Market Drayton, 29; Nantwich, 29 m.

The Great Western Rly. line turns off from the main line to the rt. soon after leaving the stat., and passes l. the village of *Admaston*, where there are two springs, chalybeate and sulphur, which have a local reputation for the cure of rheumatism. There is a fair inn here. *Admaston Hall* (H. Everett, Esq.). On rt. is *Apley Castle* (*ante*), (St. John Charlton, Esq.). 3 m. rt. is the village of *Eyton*, the ch. of which contains some good stained glass and monuments to the memory of the Eyton family. *The Hall* (T. C. Eyton, Esq.).

The line now crosses the Shrewsbury and Stafford Canal, and enters the valley of the Teme at 5 m. *Crudgington Stat.* The country is pastoral and pretty, but contains no special feature of interest. At *Kinersley* (3½ m. rt.) was buried Dr. John Bridgman, Bishop of Chester, 1619-52, and father of Sir Orlando Bridgman, Lord Chief Baron and Chief Justice. The Bishop was expelled at the abolition of episcopacy under the Commonwealth, and his palace and furniture sold for 1059*l.* At *Rowton*, near High Ercal (2 m. l.) was born Richard Baxter, the

Nonconformist, in 1615. 9 m. *Pepelow Hall* (Col. Hill).

12 m. *Hodnet Stat. (Inn: Hawkstone)*, the nearest to Hawkstone Park, which, as it is usually visited from Wem, is described in Rte. 12. The wooded hills of Hopley and Bury Walls form a very pretty feature in the landscape to the l. of Hodnet. The ch. contains a monument to Bishop Heber, who was rector here for 15 years, and whose daughter married A. Heber-Percy, Esq., of *Hodnet Hall*. The ancient manor of Hodnet was held by the service of being "steward of the honour of Montgomery." The lords of Hodnet were bound to keep that fortress in repair. By the marriage of the heiress of the De Hodenets, it passed to the Vernons, then to the Hebers, whose heiress married the present owner. "Saxton makes a park here, midway between Cheshardine and Wem: it was an ancient park, recognised as early as the year 1257, when it was held by the family who assumed their name from it."—*Shirley*. The present Hall is a picturesque irregular building, embosomed in trees.

1¼ m. rt. of Hodnet is *Stoke-upon-Tern*, the ch. of which, of Tudor date, contains a monument to Sir Reginald Corbet, Judge of the Common Pleas in the reign of Elizabeth. The following inscription is upon a pew:—

"God prosper long y^e kinge in this lande,
And grant that Pypstrie never have y^e
upper hande."

5 m. to the S.E. of Hodnet is *Child's Ercal*, the ch. of which has an octagonal font, with the lower half of each angle bevelled. A little further E. is *Hinastock*, formerly a great haunt of freebooters. The Barons of Wem used to exact toll from travellers for guarding passes in the neighbourhood. Passing rt. *Burningsdale Hall* (J. Tayleur, Esq.), the rly. reaches

17 m. MARKET DRAYTON JUNC. with the Silverdale and Stoke-upon-Trent Rly. The town of Market Drayton (*Inn*: Corbet Arms) is a quiet little place, close to the Staffordshire border, dependent on the neighbouring agricultural population, a paper manufactory, and one of horsehair seating. But it can boast of considerable antiquity, being mentioned in Domesday Book as Draitune, the Manor of which was possessed by the Abbot of St. Ebrulph, in Normandy, and after him by the Abbot of Combermere. The grammar-school was founded by Sir Rowland Hill, Lord Mayor of London in the reign of Mary. The *ch.* has been restored, and consists of a nave, aisles, chancel, and square tower with buttresses and pinnacles. There are some Norm. details in the W. door. In the neighbourhood are many pretty seats, such as *Slyche* (H. B. Clive, Esq.), *Pelthall, Tunstall* (P. Broughton, Esq.), *Peatswood* (T. Twemlow, Esq.), and *Oakley Hall* (Sir J. Chetwynde, Bart.).

3 m. to the W. of Market Drayton is the *ch.* of *Moreton-say*, which contains a Norm. doorway and the tomb of Lord Clive.

The antiquary should make an excursion of 3 m. on the Stafford road to Audley's Cross, on *Blore Heath*. Here was fought the famous battle, in 1459, between the factions of Lancaster and York, when Lord Audley and a number of the Cheshire gentry, who fought on King Henry's side, were killed. Drayton thus speaks of it:—

"The Earl Neville, Earl of Salisbury,
So hungry in revenge, made a ravenous spoil:
There Dutton Dutton kills; a Done doth kill a
Done;

A Booth a Booth,—and Leigh by Leigh is
overthrown.

A Venables against a Venables doth stand;
A Troutbeck fighteth with a Troutbeck hand
to hand;
There Mollineux doth make a Mollineux to die,
And Egerton the strength of Egerton doth
try."

[*Shropshire, &c.*]

Audley Cross is supposed to mark the place where Lord Audley fell. It is said that Margaret of Anjou witnessed the fight from the tower of Mucklestone *ch.*, 1½ m. to the N.

21 m. *Adderley Stat.* To the l. is *Adderley Hall* (R. Corbet, Esq.), the park of which was enclosed by Walter de Dunstanville, by agreement with the Abbot of Shrewsbury, between 1175 and 1190. *Cloverley* is the seat of R. W. Dod, Esq., and *Shavington*, of the Earl of Kilmorey. In the grounds of both places there are some remarkably fine sheets of water. The *ch.* has nave with aisles, chancel, transept and a chapel used as a mausoleum for the Kilmorey family. The interior contains monuments to the Needhams. A little before reaching

23½ m. *Audlem Stat.* the rly. enters Cheshire, and runs through a flat well-cultivated district, passing rt. *Coole Pilate, Hankelore, Batherton*, and *Austerson Halls*, now all farmhouses, to

29 m. NANTWICH JUNC. (Rte. 12). By this line, therefore, the traveller has a through route from Worcester and Wolverhampton to Crewe and Manchester.

ROUTE 8.

FROM SHREWSBURY TO STAFFORD BY
WELLINGTON AND NEWPORT.

Shrewsbury is the capital of Shropshire and a borough town, sending 2 representatives to Parliament—

D

(Hotels : Raven, very good, where Farquhar wrote his comedy of the ' Recruiting Officer ; ' Lion ; George) —and it is also one of the most beautiful and important of Welsh frontier towns. Here lived Telford, whose road to Holyhead still invites and charms the traveller, and here converging railways place him in immediate communication with most parts of the Principality.

The Station, a handsome Tudor building near the castle, stands in a picturesque position, with the river winding below it, and the spires of St. Mary and St. Alkmund crowning the height. The square red tower, seen from the S. end of the platform, is that of the abbey ch. of St. Peter and St. Paul, whose united Abbots sat before the Reformation in the House of Lords. Externally the station has a long front of 150 ft., relieved in the centre by a square tower; internally it is like most other large stations, though scarcely roomy enough for the great number of trains that daily arrive and depart.

From the station the chief objects of interest in the town may be conveniently visited.

The antiquity of Shrewsbury is considerable, and its British name (Pen-gwern, "the head of the Alderwood") indicates its position above the fertile meadow lands, which were then covered with trees and bushes. Its Saxon name, "Scrobesbyrig," is evidently of the same derivation. Fortified by a diversion of the Severn, which probably was a work of Cyndelan (Cyndelan Powis porphar, "the purple-bearer of Powis," as the noble bard Llywarch Hên calls him), it was the capital of the Powis princes between the destruction of Vr-I-Conium and the time of King Offa. After the Norm. Conquest it was the earldom of Roger de Montgomery, by whom the castle, commanding the only land-approach to the town, was erected. The Parliament which passed the Statute of Acton Burnell

(Rte. 1), was held here in the time of Edward I., the name of the statute being derived from the neighbouring and still extant residence of Acton Burnell, where it is supposed the Royal assent was given. And here, to the Parliament adjourned from Westminster, came "old John of Gaunt, time-honoured Lancaster," and Henry of Hereford, his "bad son"—

"Here to make good the bolstrous late appeal
Against the Duke of Norfolk, Thomas
Mowbray."

In 1403 the battle between the forces of the same Henry of Hereford, the King of England, and those of Hotapur and his confederates, took place on the plain, about 3 m. distant, under the skirts of Haughmond Hill. The spot is still called Battlefield, and the ch. bears the same appellation. The pestilence called the "sweating sickness," so terrible in the 16th centy., broke out first, it is said, in this town.

Shrewsbury is a corporate town, possessing various ancient charters from the time of William I. to James II., and continues to give the title of Earl to the lineal descendants of the great John Talbot, who was brought from the field of Châtillon to be buried at Whitechurch (Rte. 12). Shrewsbury is situated on a peninsula of rising ground, encircled by the Severn on all sides but the N., and locally termed "the Island;" in fact, so nearly do the windings of the river approach each other, that the isthmus is only 300 yards in breadth :—

"Edita Penguerni late fastigia splendent
Urbs sita lunato veluti mediamnis in orbe,
Colle tumet modico, duplici quoque ponte
superbit
Accipiens patriâ sibi linguâ nomen ab alnis."

The main approaches are by 2 bridges, on the E. and N.W., called respectively the English and Welsh bridges. The former, erected in 1769 at a cost of 15,000*l.*, is a handsome

structure of 7 arches, surmounted by an open balustrade, though the elevation is remarkable from the height of the central arch, which was constructed thus to allow of the great volume of water brought down in rainy weather. On the keystones of either side are heads of Sabrina and Neptune. The *Welsh Bridge*, across which runs the "reddie waye" to Wales, has little remarkable in its architecture, but replaces an old one pulled down in the last centy. On it was a picturesque gateway-tower, of which many engravings are still extant. At the suburb of Coleham, the Severn is joined by the *Meole Brook*, of which Drayton says:—

"Mele her great mistress next at Shrewsbury doth meet,
To see with what a grace she that faire towne doth greet."

The *Castle* stands on the isthmus, and is conspicuous from its lofty position. "builte in such a brave plott that it could have epyed a byrd flying in every strete," and from the deep red colour of the buildings, though its architecture, except in some of the walls, is considerably modernised. The square keep, with the round corner turrets and part of the walls of the inner bailey are all that are left of the ancient portion. It is rented by its present inhabitant (Rev. J. Downward) from the proprietor, the Duke of Cleveland, and contains nothing remarkable but the turret in the garden that overlooks the river, and first meets the eye of the stranger as he arrives at the station. This was the work of Telford for Sir W. Pulteney, his early patron and former proprietor of the place, and here the former wrote the poem to Burns. In the garden below, Capt. Benbow was shot by Cromwell's orders for his desertion of the Parliamentary cause.

The prospect from the castle is magnificent, embracing the blue

ridges of the Norman Mons-gilberti, the Saxon and English Wrekin, in which the name of Vr-ikon, "City of Iconium," whose ashes smoulder beneath its slopes, is virtually enshrined—the South Shropshire hills, along whose valleys and sides went the tide of the last battle of Caractacus—the beautiful Breidden, "hills of the robbers" in the mother tongue, but now tenanted by small farmers, and surmounted by a pillar in honour of Lord Rodney's victory—the Berwyns and the Welsh ranges in long terraces to the W. Nearer home, to the N. and E., are the more modest eminences of Grinshill, Hawkstone, and Haughmond, rising from a rich and well-watered country, which rivalled Yorkshire, till within these few years, in the excellence of its horses.

The *Town Walls* were first commenced by Roger Belesme, son of Earl Roger de Montgomery, and afterwards finished by Henry III. to protect the inhabitants from the incursions of the Welsh. A small portion only remains on the S. side of the town, where they are in good preservation, and form an agreeable promenade. Here also is a square tower of 3 storeys, of the same date, the only one remaining out of 20 that formerly strengthened and defended the walls. The fortifications were for the most part destroyed in 1645, when the town yielded to the Parliamentary troops under Gen. Mytton.

The *churches* are interesting, and particularly that of *St. Mary*, a noble pile of building in the centre of the town, whose lofty spire (220 ft.) serves as a landmark for many a mile around. During its restoration, foundations of an older structure were found extending the whole length of the nave. It is a cruciform ch. of various styles of architecture, and contains a nave, side aisles, chancel, transepts, and 2 chantry-chapels. The basement of the tower is Norm.,

as are also the S. and N. porches of the nave and the doorways of the N. and S. transepts, which are ornamented with lozenge and chevron mouldings. In the S. porch observe the pointed windows of the side, as examples of rudimentary mullions. The E. E. style is visible in the beautiful lancet-windows of the transepts. Those of the clerestory are Perp., as are also the pointed windows in the S. chapel, and the large one of 8 lights at the end of the chancel. The spire is octagonal, and said to be the third highest in the kingdom. Internally, Norm. semi-circular arches separate the nave from the aisles, springing from elegant clustered columns of later date. This is singular, since the pointed arch is sometimes found resting on the Norm. pillar, but very seldom the reverse. Similar arches lead from the aisles to the transepts, and also to the chapels. The ceiling is oak, beautifully fretted and carved with flowers and figures; indeed it is one of the finest examples in England. In the nave is a Dec. pulpit of Caen stone, representing incidents in the Life of Christ, viz.—The Sermon on the Mount, the Nativity, Crucifixion, and Ascension. The niches have figures of St. John, St. Peter, and St. Paul. One of the chief beauties of the ch. arises from the profusion of the stained glass. The large E. window (which once belonged to the Franciscan Priory, the gift of Sir John de Charlton, circa 1350) is occupied with the genealogy of Christ from the Root of Jesse, in which the patriarch is reclining in sleep, while from his loins a stem ascends, enclosing in its branches a king or prophet belonging to the series, which numbers altogether 47 figures. At the base on rt. are figures of Sir Owen de Charleton, Sir John, his brother, and Sir John, their common ancestor, Edward III., and Lady Hawys Gadarn, heiress of Powis, 1291, the wife of Sir John de Charle-

ton. In the N. transept is a memorial window to the Rev. J. Blakeway, a former minister of the parish, to whom a beautiful Dec. altar-tomb has been erected close by. There is a lancet-window on the N. side of the altar, with subjects from the life of St. Bernard, viz.: St. Bernard reaping—Healing a diseased woman before the Bishop—a criminal experiencing the benefit of clergy—the Saint visiting his friend, the Prior of the Grand Chartreuse—the conversion of Aloide, Duchess of Lorraine—Bernard on horseback—Healing the blind—Celebration of Mass, &c. These have been attributed to Albert Dürer, like the windows at Fairford. "As a curious instance of the manner in which Mediæval artists adapted themselves to the representation of the most incongruous subjects, there are specimens from a window in the S. aisle which show the swarms of flies, which St. Bernard had excommunicated, being literally swept out of the Abbey of Foigni." On the N. side of the baptistry is a 3-light window of the Crucifixion; also one of the Day of Judgment, in which the Devil is shown as a blue boar.

In the S. transept is a memorial window to Rev. W. Rowland, formerly vicar, and a munificent restorer of the ch.: also monuments to some of the Lloyds, and Mrs. Butler, the wife of the Bishop Butler.

The *Trinity Chapel* contains a fine organ, by *Byfield*, 1729, at which the celebrated musician, Dr. William Hayes, presided—a mutilated cross-legged knight on an altar-tomb of the 14th centy., supposed to be the effigy of one of the Leybornes, Lords of Berwick—and a monument in marble to Dr. Butler, head master of the school, and Bishop of Lichfield. It is from designs by *Chantrey*, but the work was executed by *Baily*, in consequence of the death of the former. In this chapel also are some stained win-

dows, by *Evans*, in which are introduced figures of the Count and Countess Horn, a family of note in the Low Countries, to whom William Prince of Orange was related by marriage. In the tower-arch is a carved oak screen, to the memory of Rev. J. O. Hopkins, and a monument of Caen stone, by *Westmacott*, to Brig.-General Cureton, who fell in an engagement with the Sikhs, 1848. The folds of the cloak are beautifully carved. Within the baptistry is one by *Thomas*, to Admiral Benbow, a native of Shrewsbury, who died in Jamaica of wounds received in an engagement with the French off Cartagena, 1702. The vicars of St. Mary formerly possessed the advantage of being exempt from episcopal jurisdiction.

A short distance to the S. is *St. Alkmund's Ch.*, also collegiate, and said to have been founded in 912 by Ethelfleda, daughter of Alfred the Great. It was once a venerable cruciform ch., but was taken down in 1794, leaving only the tower and the graceful spire. The remainder of the building is in the churchwarden's style of the last centy. At the E. end is a window, by *Egginton*—subject, "Emblematical Faith."

Almost immediately adjoining *St. Alkmund's* is the ancient Norman ch. of *St. Julian's*. It was demolished in 1750, and the present structure erected, though considerably altered in 1846. The most ancient portion of the ch. is the basement of the tower, the main body being also in the churchwarden's style. In the interior is a gravestone with an inscription of the 13th centy. on its rounded edge, in memory of Edward Troumwyn, a member of a family living in the time of Edward II. There is also a monument to Archdeacon Owen, the historian of Shrewsbury, and an east window by *Evans*: subject, the Transfiguration.

Old St. Chad's, situated near the town walls, was originally founded

about 780 by one of the Mercian kings, on the site of a palace of a Prince of Powis, and was said to have been a very fine building of the reign of Henry III. It was much damaged by fire in 1293, and finally gave way in 1788, in consequence of some of the pillars yielding. The former catastrophe was owing to a plumber working in the ch., the record of the inquest upon him stating, that while endeavouring to flee the conflagration he had caused, "contra voluntatem suam demissus fuit in quodam stagno fluminis Sabrinæ et sic mortuus fuit." The small portion which remains was almost entirely rebuilt in 1571, and is now used as a chapel for the cemetery, which contains the graves of some of the most distinguished Salopian families, such as the Corbets, Burtons, Owens, &c. Sir Rowland Lee, Bishop of Lichfield, and President of the Marches, 1543, is buried here; also Captain Benbow, who was shot beneath the castle. A movement is on foot for the restoration of the ch.

New St. Chad's, some distance to the W., built 1792, is chiefly remarkable for its situation at the head of the Quarry, and for the questionable taste of the architectural details. The body of the ch. is formed by the intersection of 2 circles, at the E. end of which is a Doric portico and tower, the sole feature which prevents the building being taken for a theatre or exchange. The interior is heavy, but the stained glass is good. Over the altar is a copy of Rubens' Descent from the Cross, with the Visitation and the Presentation in the Temple on either side. The other windows represent the Raising of Lazarus, Christ Healing the Sick, Christ Blessing little Children, and the Tribute Money. There is also a monument to the members of the 53rd (Shropshire) regiment who fell at Sobraon, 1846. *New St. Chad's*

is considered the most important and fashionable ch. of Shrewsbury.

Across the English Bridge, and on the other side of the Hereford Rly., is the venerable *Abbey ch.*, in interest and beauty scarcely surpassed by St. Mary's. It was formerly a large cruciform ch., having a central as well as the present W. tower, but the E. portion was destroyed at the time of the dissolution of the monasteries, while part of the clerestory fell at a subsequent date. The basement of the tower is Norman, the remainder being Dec., and adorned with a magnificent Dec. window, surmounted by a rich crocket and finial. Above it and between the two bell-tower windows is a niche containing the statue of a mailed knight, supposed to represent Edward III. On the N. side is a porch of two stories, with mullioned windows, nearly flat-arched. A great deal of judicious restoration has taken place in the ch., particularly at the E. end, and in the S. aisle. "The choir having been destroyed, the eastern end now terminates in a wall run up between the remains of the two western piers that supported the central tower." The nave is separated from the side aisles by 5 arches, 2 of which, adjoining the tower, are E. Eng., while the others are Norman, with very thick round pillars, and it is evident that a course of smaller arches was intended to have been carried above them. The tower is divided from the nave by a lofty pointed arch, 52 ft. in height, and, by the removal of the organ gallery and screen, the whole west window is displayed. It is very fine, and is filled with armorial bearings of kings, nobles, and members of old Shropshire families—amongst them the Dukes of Gloucester, Lancaster, and York; Earls of March, Chester, Suffolk, Surrey, &c. The E. window is by *Evans*, and beneath it is a rere-

dos of Norman arcades, the centre one containing a painting of the Women at the Sepulchre. There are other stained windows, with various armorial bearings. In the S. aisle are a mutilated window, on a basement of Early Pointed arches, supposed to be that of Roger de Montgomery, the founder of the abbey, who died as a monk of his own foundation in 1094; an elaborate tomb of a knight (Sir William Charlton) and his lady, brought from Wellington, and described by Dugdale as "a faire raised monument, whereon is cut the portraiture of a man in armour, and by him his wife;" and a cross-legged knight in mail, supposed to be Sir Walter de Dunstanville, circa 1196. In the N. aisle are the figure of a judge of the time of Edward I.; a monumental statue in armour, with a long robe thrown back (14th cent.); an altar tomb with effigies of Richard Onslow (Speaker in the reign of Elizabeth) and his wife; besides many others more or less interesting, which have been brought at different times from the churches of St. Giles, Old St. Chad's, and Old St. Alkmund's.

The *Monastic Remains*, at one time extensive, have nearly disappeared in the course of modern improvements. The Chapter House, which formerly stood to the S. of the ch., was celebrated as the house of assembly for the first English Parliament in 1283. There are some remains in a malt-house (S.W. of the Abbey) of what was probably the infirmary and chapel, and the Abbey House is supposed to have been the Hospitium or Guest Hall. In a garden overlooking the street, and what was once the refectory, is a stone pulpit placed on the wall, and probably used for the purposes of lecturing or reading while the brethren were at meals. A similar one was discovered at Tintern Abbey, in Monmouthshire. It contains 6

E. Eng. trefoil arches partly filled in by panels, on which are sculptured figures of St. Peter and St. Paul, &c.

The *Ch. of St. Giles*, the oldest in Shrewsbury, was built early in the reign of Henry I. for the use of a Leper Hospital. It stands on the Acton Burnell road, and preserves, among some modern additions, some Norman work and a good Norman font, with zigzag and chevron mouldings, which was brought from High Ercall ch. There is also the carved head of a beautiful stone cross, one of the niches containing a figure of St. Giles, the patron saint.

The remaining churches are modern. *St. Michael's* has stained glass, representing the Nativity, the Annunciation, and the Presentation, the two latter copies from Guido and Rubens; and *Trinity* has the Crucifixion, after Vandycck.

Shrewsbury School, near the Castle, long esteemed among the public schools in England, was founded, in 1551, by Edward VI., since whose time many persons of eminence have received their education here. Mar-maduke Rawdon of Yorke (17th cent.) says of it—"Itt haith a faire free schoole of which thir are fowr maisters and thir are sometimes six hundred schollers, and a hansome library thirunto belonginge." The scale ranges from Sir Philip Sidney to Judge Jefferies, without calling in question others of later days. The original building was of wood, but was replaced by the present structure, which occupies two sides of a quadrangle. Its principal features are a pinnacled tower, flanked on one side by the schoolroom and on the other by the chapel and library. The latter contains portraits of Queen Elizabeth, Henry VIII., Edward VI., the Bishop of Lichfield, and other former head-masters. It is with the name of Dr. Butler that Shrewsbury School

is most associated in later times, for it was to his learning and talent that it became indebted for its position as an educational establishment.

A little above the school, and on the opposite side of the road, are slight remains of *St. Nicholas Chapel*, now used as a coach-house, but formerly erected by Roger de Montgomery as one of eight chapels for such of his retainers as lived outside the castle court. Close by are some ancient houses, known as the *Council House*, or Lord's Place, now converted into private residences. Here Charles I., with his nephew Prince Rupert, took up their quarters when on a visit to Shrewsbury, as also did the unhappy James II., in 1687. The entrance-hall is still preserved nearly in its original condition. It received its name from having been the hall of the Court of the Marches of Wales, which held its meetings alternately here, at Ludlow, and at Hereford. Shrewsbury is rich in ancient houses, according to Lydgate—

"So equally of tymbre and of stone
Here houses were raised everich on."

Ireland's Mansion is a half-timbered gabled building at the corner of the High Street and the bottom of Pride Hill. On the beams of the gables are the armorial bearings of the family of Ireland, which flourished at Albrighton. Slight remains of *Bernard's Hall*, the mansion of one of the Shrewsbury provosts, 1288. A fine timber house of the 15th cent., in *Butcher's Row* (near St. Alkmund's ch.), "a quaint but repulsive locality, in which sweeps and slaughtermen divide the habitations of the chantry priests of the ancient guild of the Holy Cross." This row is considered by Mr. Parker to be the most perfect specimen of old shops in England. *Lloyd's House*, at the corner of the Market Square. *Jones' Mansion* (in Church Street),

where the Duke of York and Prince Rupert once resided. The *Draper's Hall*, near St. Mary's ch., an Elizabethan building with a fine old wainscoted room and a portrait supposed to be that of Degory Watur and his wife, the founders of the almshouses. *Vaughan's Place* (in College Hill, now the Museum), of which a portion of the interior, erected in the 14th centy. by Sir Harris Vaughan, is in good preservation, and contains a fine old chesnut roof. *Rowley's Mansion*, 1618, near the Mardol, still keeps its ancient doorway. It was built by William Rowley, draper, Burgess and alderman, and was, during the residence of Mr. Hill, who married his granddaughter, the scene of much Shropshire old-fashioned hospitality. And across the river, out of the Abbey Foregate, is *Whitehall* (Rev. T. Lloyd), an Elizabethan mansion of the same date, standing, according to *Churchyard*, the Shropshire poet,—

"So trim and finely that it graceth
All the soil that it is on."

The *Bell Stone*, or *Bente Stone*, an old Elizabethan house in the Mardol, in the front of which is a large stone that formerly stood outside. In a house in the Wyle Cop, Henry VII. stopped on his way to Bosworth. A good imitation of the old style has been made by the incumbent of St. Alkmund's on the front of his residence.

Near the town walls, but outside them, are remains of the *Grey Friary*, founded, it is said, by Hawys, wife of the Lord of Powis. The portion of the building that is left is supposed to be that of the refectory. Of the *Dominican Friary*, which occupied the hall underneath the infirmary, nothing remains.

Nearly opposite St. Mary's ch. is a handsome and commodious *Butter Market*, close to which once stood

the *High Cross*, where Dafydd ap Gruffydd, brother to Llewelyn, met his fate by hanging, burning, and quartering, after being dragged at a horse's tail through the streets. This was the Prince whose revolt against King Edward met with the furious and almost rythmical denunciation :—

"Quem nutritivimus orphanum
Quem recepit exulem," &c.

At the bottom of Pride Hill is the new *Corn Exchange and Market*, a very fine building erected in 1869, at a cost of 40,000*l.* From the centre springs a lofty campanile tower.

The *Market Square* is the focus of all the most important buildings, and contains Assize Courts and County Hall, from a design by *Smirke*; Music and Assembly Rooms, and an ancient *Market House*, an interesting building with an open arcade and square mulioned windows. Over the W. front are the arms of Queen Elizabeth, and over the N. arch is a statue in armour of Richard Duke of York, which formerly graced the old tower on the Welsh Bridge, but was removed in 1791, when the new bridge was built. A prominent object in the square is the *Status of Lord Clive*, a full-length bronze figure by *Marochetti*, on a pedestal of polished granite. Clive, considered the founder of an empire that was extended and upheld afterwards by greater men, invested a large portion of his Indian gains in land and politics in the county of Salop; he represented the town three times in Parliament, and was elected Mayor in 1762. His naive declaration in the House of Commons, when defending himself against the accusation of laying the native princes under contribution, "I wonder, Mr. Speaker, that I did not take more," will often occur to those who pass by the sombre effigy of this remarkable man, whose

family now bear the title of Earls of Powis.

Lord Hill's monument, in the London road, commemorates another Shropshire hero—the hero of Douro, Talavera, Vittoria, Waterloo, and many other battles—who concluded his victorious and honourable life by several years' service as Commander-in-Chief of the British Army. The column, of Grecian-Doric style, and 133 ft. high, was erected at a cost of nearly 6000*l.*, in 1816, and is surmounted by a statue of Lord Hill. It is worth while ascending to the balcony at the summit for the sake of the view.

Other points worth notice in the town are the *Infirmiry*, a plain, but conveniently arranged Grecian building, the front of which overlooks the windings of the Severn. The *Drapers' Almshouses*, founded in 1461, by Degory Watur, who, it is recorded, used to attend with the ministers "dailie in our Ladye's church, and kneel with them in a long pew in the guise made for them and himself." The *Holy Cross Hospital*, a modern Tudor building for the reception of parish residents stricken in years. *Milington's Hospital*, in the suburb of Frankwell, for the maintenance and education of 50 boys and girls. The County Gaol, a massive brick building close to the station; and the Museum of Natural History, interesting as being the receptacle of the Roman articles found at Wroxeter.

The visitor should not omit the *Quarry*, a series of public walks of a beauty and extent that few towns can boast. It is bounded on the S. by the Severn (here crossed by several ferries), and lined by avenues of thick-foliaged lime-trees.

An interesting short walk may be taken to *Shelton*, 1½ m. on the Holyhead road, crossing the Welsh Bridge, and passing through the

district of Frankwell, or "the sun-tient streete cal'd Fraunckarell many a day." At the point where the Oswestry road diverges stands the shell of what was once a magnificent oak, known as *Glyndwr's Oak*, from a tradition that he climbed up it, to witness the issue of the Battle of Shrewsbury. 2 m. to the S. on the Acton Burnell road is the site of the *Weeping Cross*, so called because the bodies of the dead were set down there. The name is borne by two other places only—one near Stafford, on the Walsall road; the other at Banbury, in Oxfordshire.

"He that goes out will often lose,
At length coming back by Weeping Crosse,"

is an ancient proverb. Florian (Translat. by Montaigne, bk. iii. ch. 5) says "Few men have wedded their sweethearts, their paramours, or mistresses, but have come home by Weeping Crosse, and ere long repented of their bargain."

Like Coventry and Preston, Shrewsbury has been famous for the glories of its *Show*, or pageant, held every year on the Monday after first Sunday in Trinity, when the associated tradesmen, in gay attire, parade through the town to the suburb of Kingaland, where arbours are erected, one for each guild. Here they spend the rest of the day in festivity. Formerly these proceedings were accompanied by dramatic representations. "This yeare, 1568, at Whytsuntyde, was a notable stage playe played at Shrewsbury, the which was prayسد greatly, and the chyffe actor thereof was one Master Aston, being the heade scoole master at the Free Scoole there."—*MS. Account of the Reception, by Sir H. Sidney, at the Free School.*

Amongst natives of Shrewsbury may be mentioned Robert of Shrewsbury, Bishop of Bangor, who by his own desire was buried in the Shrewsbury market-place, 1213; Thomas

Churchyard, the poet, 1587; Admiral Benbow, 1650; John Thomas, Bishop of Salisbury, 1761; Job Orton, an eminent Nonconformist; Hugh Farmer, a noted Nonconformist preacher; and Taylor, the translator of Demosthenes, 1704.

A striking peculiarity of the *streets* of Shrewsbury is the retention of so many quaint and ancient names, such as Murivance, Pride Hill, Mardol, Shoplatch, Wyle Cop, &c.

"Your trunk thus dismantled and torn,
Bloude Jack,

They hew, and they hack, and they chop:
And to finish the whole
They stuck up a pole

In the place that's still called the Wylde
Coppe."—*Ingoltsby Legends*.

These names offer curious corruptions of appellations that were once appropriate: Wyle Cop—Hill Top, it being a steep ascent from the river; Dog-pole—Duck-pool, in the hollow near St. Mary's; Mardol or Mardepol—Dairy Fold or Grazing Ground; Pride Hill, from an ancient family residing there; Shop Latch—Shutte Place, the seat of an old Salop family; Murivance, an open space in front of the walls, &c.

The visitor should not omit to pay attention to the famous *cakes, ale, and brawn*, the former of which, in particular, have been in request since the days of Queen Elizabeth.

The Shrewsbury cake is spoken of by Shenstone:—

"For here each season do their cakes abide,
Whose honoured name, the inventive city
owns,
Rendering through Britain's Isle Salopia's
praises known."

The Simnel cake is of different material, and is more particularly seen at Christmas and Lent.

"I'll to thee a Simnel bring
Gainst thou goest a mothering."

Herrick.

The trade of Shrewsbury is now very insignificant, although it was once the great mart for Welshpool

and Newtown flannels. It still possesses a flax-spinning factory, and has one or two ironfoundries.

The neighbourhood of Shrewsbury abounds in pleasant and beautiful seats, most of which are alluded to in their respective routes. The principal of these are *Sundorne Castle* (Rev. J. Dryden Pigott Corbett), *Attingham* (Lord Berwick), *Longnor Hall* (R. L. Burton, Esq.), *Berwick Hall* (Hon. H. W. Powys), *Rose Hall* (J. Morris, Esq.), *Lythwood Hall*, &c.

Railways.—To London, 171 m.; Birmingham, 42; Wolverhampton, 27; Wellington, 12; Oswestry, 20; Chester, 42; Welshpool, 20; Church Stretton, 12; Ludlow, 27; Hereford, 51; Crewe, 32; Wem, 11; Stafford, 29; Newtown, 34; Aberystwith, 81½; Minsterley, 9; Llanymynach, 18 m.

Distances.—Montgomery, 22 m.; Wroxeter, 5; Uffington, 2½; Sundorne, 2½; Hawkestone, 14; Haughmond, 3½; Battlefield, 3 m.

Excursions.—1. To Atcham and Wroxeter. 2. To Haughmond Abbey. 3. To Battlefield.

Wroxeter, the site of the ancient Ur-i-conium, can be reached either by rail to Upton Magna stat., on the Shropshire Union Rly., from whence it is 2 m. of rather intricate lanes, or by direct road thither of 5 m., crossing the Severn at 3 m. *Atcham* (Inn: Berwick Arms), where there is a very picturesque *ch.* close to the river-side. The lower portion of the tower is of good Norm. work. Amongst the list of incumbents of Atcham was Orderic the Priest, who in 1075 baptized and stood sponsor for Ordericus Vitalis, the historian and chaplain of William the Conqueror. Ordericus is supposed to have been the very earliest parish priest in any locality in Shropshire.

4 m. 1. *Attingham Hall* (Lord Berwick). A charming landscape is

produced by the junction of the Tern with the Severn near this house. The former river is crossed by a handsome open balustraded bridge.

5 m. *Wroxeter*.—Here is a fine old Norm. *ch.*, with later alterations. The tower has decorated bands on the W. face, and in the upper stage are two niches, one on each side the window. In the interior are some unique altar-tombs of the 16th centy., the figures of which are remarkable for the freshness and vividness of their colouring. At the gate of the churchyard are two Roman pillars with highly-ornamented capitals, discovered in the bed of the river, which flows close by. The remains of *Ur-i-conium* are to be found by the site of the Watling Street road, in a field a few hundred yards to the north, which has been excavated over an area of 2 acres at the expense of the Shropshire Antiquarian Society. It is to be regretted that the prosecution of so important a work should be so often checked by want of funds. "The area of the city was considerably larger than that of Pompeii, its walls being 3 m. in circuit, while those of Pompeii are less than two miles, enclosing only 160 acres, while *Ur-i-conium* had 223." The ruins consist of a massive wall about 70 ft. in length, known as the *Old Wall*, forming one side of a parallelogram composed of a central area and 2 side aisles. "This was the Basilica, or Government Hall of the city, and attached to it on the E. is an enclosure 26 ft. by 60 ft., which may have been the chalcidicum, a room usually attached to basilicas. Along the north side, on the line of the present road from Ironbridge to Shrewsbury, the remains of a Roman roadway have been found, a pavement of small rolled stones from the river occupying the central part, with a causeway on either side for foot passengers, terminated by a

kerbstone—the width of the road, including the roadway, being 18 ft." To the S. of the basilica is a series of courts and hypocausts, supposed by Mr. Wright to have been the public baths. In all the latter the connecting pillars or columns of Roman bricks, as well as the flues, are in high preservation, and afford a clear illustration of the method by which the Romans warmed their houses. In one of the hypocausts 3 skeletons were found, 2 of females and 1 of an old man, by whose side was a box of coins of the reigns of Tetricus, Valens, Constantinus, &c., thus showing the money in actual circulation at the time of the destruction of the city. These individuals had probably crept into the hypocaust to save themselves from the massacre, and had there been suffocated. Other skulls were found near the spot where the Severn was crossed, and where the walls of a square water-tower were uncovered during the excavations. Many articles of great interest have been deposited in the Museum at Shrewsbury, such as coins, fibulae, hair-pins (upwards of 30 varieties), combs, statues, nails, pottery, Samian ware, glass, charcoal, grains of wheat, bones, and even a bottle of patent eye-water, with the stamp of the nostrum-vendor who had concocted it. A lane leading from the city to the Horse-shoe Inn (on the 6th milestone of the Shrewsbury and Wellington road) is probably the Watling Street; and outside the gate in this direction was the burial-ground, as shown by the number of sepulchral remains found in it.

Ur-i-conium (usually erroneously written in one word, but which is simply "City of Iconium") was founded about the reign of Trajan (as far as can be judged from a medal of that emperor, found in 1841, embedded in a wall), and probably by military colonists from the Asiatic part of the Roman empire.

We know that a division of Parthian horse was stationed here, guarding the communications of the Roman roads and the passes of the Severn. It was destroyed by the Saxons in the 6th centy., when Romanized Britons alone remained as its defenders, and probably in one of those irruptions so pathetically deplored by Llywarch Hên. Since that epoch the city has never revived again, but has remained for centuries in ruins, mostly covered by the soil, and only visited at times by the builders of the Middle Ages, who seem to have made use of them extensively as a ready-made quarry, from whence they might extract materials for the erection of the abbeyes and churches in the neighbourhood.

The tourist should not visit Wroxeter without Mr. Wright's able and exhaustive guide.

2. To *Haughmond Abbey* the road runs past the station, the county jail, and St. Michael's ch., branching off (rt.) from the road to Wem at $1\frac{1}{4}$ m. $2\frac{1}{2}$ m. l. is *Sundorne Castle* (Rev. J. Dryden Pigott Corbett), one of the most beautiful of Shropshire residences, placed in the midst of a large and well-wooded park, ornamented with extensive sheets of water.

The house is castellated, of a warm-coloured red sandstone, and contains a fine entrance-hall, oak staircase, and library. In the latter are some exquisite stained glass, and many articles of *vertù*. In the drawing-room is a statue of Venus, brought from Rome, for which Nollekens is said to have offered a thousand pounds.

Among the paintings are works by Rubens, Guido, Titian, Vandyck, Rembrandt, Correggio, Spagnoletto, Raphael, Salsoferrato, Wouvermans, and several family portraits.

The property of Sundorne, together with the adjoining ruins of Haughmond, came into the possession of

the present owner, the Rev. J. Dryden Pigott, by will; on which occasion he took the additional name of Corbett.

On a slope of a wooded hill $\frac{1}{2}$ m. distant are the beautiful ruins of the *Abbey of Haughmond* (Haut mont, the high mount), which present some very interesting architectural remains. The hill itself is noted as the spot where Lord Douglas was taken prisoner after the battle of Shrewsbury, his horse falling under him as he was being pursued. The Priory, afterwards developed into a monastery for canons regular of St. Augustine, was founded in the 12th centy. by William Fitzalan, a great benefactor of Shropshire religious houses. Among the privileges granted to Haughmond was one by Pope Alexander III., 1172, which allowed "that where there should happen to be a general interdict, the monks might perform the divine office in a low voice, with closed doors." For his adherence to the cause of the Empress Maud he was banished by Stephen, and did not enjoy any of his estates until the accession of Henry II. to the throne. The favour which this monarch showed to William Fitzalan, he also extended to the monks of Haughmond, who obtained several advantages thereby. The establishment flourished for many years, with but few drawbacks to its prosperity until the Dissolution, when the monastery and lands were granted to the Littletons of Pilaton Hall, in the adjoining county of Stafford. From them it passed by purchase to Sir Rowland Hill, and then to the Barkers, Kynastons, and Corbets. When in full preservation, the abbey must have covered a great deal of ground, but at present there is very little of the ch. left, though a considerable portion of the monastic buildings. From the foundations visible, it is evident that the ch. was cruciform, and had a nave,

choir and transepts; and as the ground slopes rather rapidly, it is probable that the floor was elevated into stages. "During a clearance of the foundations, on the north-western side, shallow Norm. shafts were exposed, which followed the wall of the building. At this point there seems to have been an entrance to the ch. by an E. Eng. portal about 11 ft. square, with an ascent of 3 or 4 steps. Several tiles, forming portions of the tessellated pavement, have occasionally been found, some of them curious and rare in pattern, and displaying the device of a fish within an oval ichthus."

On the S. side of the ch., opening into the cloisters, is a Norm. entrance, on either side of which are figures of St. Peter and St. Paul, which have been placed there subsequent to the building of the arch. A door close by led to the dormitory, which occupied the upper story to the W. of the cloister. Forming the eastern boundary of what was the cloister is the chapter-house, a very beautiful specimen of transition date from Norm. to E. Eng. The W. front has a rich doorway with minor arches on either side, both adorned by a profusion of foliage. In the jambs of the columns are crocketed canopies, occupied by figures, a good deal mutilated, which are said to have been placed there in the 14th centy. They are the Archangel Michael, St. John, St. Catherine, St. Margaret, St. Mary, and one or two Bishops. In shape the interior is square, but with the E. wall forms two sides of an hexagon. A fine ribbed oak ceiling, with mouldings of the 14th centy., seems to denote that there was an upper story. Extending to the S. in a line with the chapter-house is the day-room or locutory, and to the W. of that, forming the S. boundary of the cloister, is the Refectory, of which an arched doorway and a portion of W. window of

Dec. date, with good mouldings, are the only portions left. Adjoining the S. end of the day-room is the abbot's house or hospitium, from whence a door to the W. leads to the Guest Hall. A portion of the window in the former remains, but the upper part disappeared in 1810. The Hall is a remarkably fine apartment, 81 ft. in length, and was lighted by a large Dec. window, the tracery of which has vanished. In one of the corners is a newell staircase into the turret, and on the N. side is a very large fireplace. The fish-ponds were situated in a field to the N. by the ch., and the Monks' Well is behind the Chapter-house. This is a curious little building of the 15th centy., measuring only 10½ ft. by 7½ ft., with an angular vaulted roof. From the well, which is on a bank above the abbey, there is a charming view westward, looking over the park and towers of Sundorne — with the spires and chimneys of Shrewsbury in the distance. The background is formed by an amphitheatre of mountains, in which the Berwys, the Breiddens, Moel-y-golfa, the Stiper Stones, and the Longmynd are the most conspicuous. A large park is said by Saxton to have been attached to the Abbey; "and its origin may apparently be traced to the patent granted by Edward I., in the 24th year of his reign, to enclose 20 acres, and by Edward II., in 1313, to enclose 60 acres of their bosc or wood which lay within the royal forest of Haughmond. On Ebury Hill, 1 m. to the N. is a rectangular *camp*, but so thickly planted that it is difficult to make out. From this side too there is a fine view to the N. and E. over the ridge of Hawkstone, the country round Wem, and a large expanse of agricultural district. On the return to Shrewsbury, the road by which the visitor entered the Abbey grounds should be crossed, and the path followed under the hill to *Uffing-*

ton Castle, a small tower, containing no interest in itself, but worth visiting for the view, and the picturesque slopes and woods all round. The shortest way back will be by the canal.

3. To *Battlefield*, 3 m. on the Wem road. This is the locality of the battle between Henry IV. and the Percys, July 21, 1403. "When Henry Percy rebelled against Henry IV., and was resolutely bent to attack the wall of Shrewsbury, which that King had made exceeding strong, by a turn of fortune he was prevented, and his measures broken in a trice—for the King himself was suddenly at his heels with an army; whom the rash youth engaging, after a long and sharp dispute, despairing of success, exposed himself wilfully to death. The place from this battle was called *Battlefield*, where the King afterwards built a chapel and settled 2 priests to pray for the souls of the slain."—*Camden*. The *Collegiate Ch.* has been well restored by *Mr. Pountney Smith*. It consists of a single aisle and chancel without any division between them. At the W. end is a very fine embattled tower, of which the upper stage is of the date of the beginning of the 16th centy. Above the chancel window is a niche with a figure of Henry IV. The choir windows were once furnished with very splendid stained glass, representing the history of John the Baptist; but it all got broken at a farmhouse, whither it was sent for safety. A piece of land adjoining the ch. is called the "King's Croft," from its being the place where the king pitched his tent.

The antiquary should extend his walk for 1 m. W. to *Albright Hussey*, where is a curious old moated mansion belonging to the Husseys, and subsequently to the Corbets.

There are slight remains of a ruined chapel dedicated to St. John.

The *Shropshire Union Rly.*, between Shrewsbury and Stafford, uses the same line of rails as far as Wellington as the Great Western trains. Quitting the General station, it crosses the Severn immediately, and again about 1½ m. further on. On the l. is the picturesque hill of Haughmond, crowned by Uffington Castle above and the ch. below. To the rt. is *Longner Hall*, the seat of R. L. Burton, Esq., whose family has been settled here for many generations. The house is Elizabethan, fronted with Grinshill stone. But the chief interest lies in the grounds, which contain the tomb of Edward Burton, whose opposition to Queen Mary is related in 'Foxe's Book of Martyrs.' "Edward Burton, a religious assessor of the Gospel in Queen Marie's time, was a man indeed who by many waies and courses he took for his safety (too long to be told here), and to evade the hands of such as lay in wait for him; when one day sitting alone, sitting in his upper parlour at Longner, in meditation, no doubt, of God's deliverance of his people, he heard a general ringing of all the bells in Shrewsbury, whereunto, in St. Chadda's pariah, his house belonged, when strait his right-divining soul told him it was for Queen Marie's death; yet longing to know the truth more certainly, and loath to trust his servants therein for some reasons, he sent his eldest son, then a boy of 16 years of age, bidding him to throw up his hat if it were so, so impatient was his expectation, who finding it and doing accordingly as he was directed, the good man retiring presently from the window and recovering his chair, for extremity of joy which he conceived for the deliverance of the saints of God, he suddenly expired. And this was his Nunc dimittis, Domine."

3½ m. *Upton Stat.* The village of Upton Magna is to the rt., and contains a fine *ch.*, restored by *Street*. It is 2½ m., a walk through pretty country lanes, to Wroxeter. Upton Magna was the largest of the manors bestowed by Earl Roger de Montgomery on his favourite Warine, and its history is a good deal interwoven with that of the early sheriffs. Crossing the Shrewsbury Canal and the River Teme, the traveller reaches

6½ m. *Walcott Stat.* 1½ m. N.W. is *Withington Ch.*, which contains some *brasses* of the 15th centy. The Wrekin on the rt. becomes a conspicuous feature in the scenery all the way to *Wellington*, 10 m. (Rte. 7), where the Nantwich and Market Drayton line comes in on l. and the Great Western is given off to Wolverhampton, as well as a branch to Coalbrook Dale.

11½ m. *Hadley Stat.* The line skirts the northern boundary of the Shropshire Coal-field, which is less disfigured on this side than on any other. The furnaces on the rt. in the distance are those of Wombridge and Donnington.

14 m. *Donnington Stat.*, the nearest to *Lilleshall Abbey*, 2½ m. rt. It is a very pretty walk, the road passing, after the branch off from the Stafford T. P., the village and old hall of Lilleshall. The *ch.* has a sculptured font with Norm. arcades. Of the abbey, founded in 1145 for Augustine Canons by Richard and Philip de Balmirs, some very beautiful remains are left. Of these Rickman thus speaks:—"The plan of the abbey is very peculiar—a long narrow *ch.* without aisles, but with transepts, no triforium, but a clerestory high up in the walls to allow for the cloister and domestic buildings abutting against them: the nave is divided by transverse walls into 3 portions; the choir has chapels on either side; the E. window is

Dec. and the W. tower Perp. There are considerable ruins also of the refectory and the Abbot's house." Notice also the magnificent Norm. doorway. At the demolition, the stalls of the choir were removed to Wolverhampton *ch.*, where they now are (*Handbook for Staffordshire*). Although Lilleshall was a wealthy establishment, the Abbots used to complain that from their proximity to the Watling Street, which runs some 3 m. to the S., the number of pilgrims that sought their hospitality was so great, that it caused them to be really poor. At the Dissolution the manor was given by Henry VIII. to James Leveson, in whose family it remained till the 17th centy., when Frances, daughter and heiress of Sir John Leveson, brought it by marriage into the family of Gower, and it is still a residence of the Dukes of Sutherland. The Hall is a Tudor building, very prettily situated overlooking the Abbey ruins, and has charming terrace-gardens. In the adjoining parish of Preston is the old park belonging to the Abbot of Lilleshall, still called Lubstree Park, but now a farm.

As is evident to the traveller, the Lilleshall estate is mostly valuable for its underground treasures in the shape of coal and limestone. Some very interesting and successful experiments have been made by the Duke of Sutherland in sinking for coal through the New Red sandstone, thus increasing to an enormous extent the productive area of the field. About 1 m. from Lilleshall is *Woodcote*, the seat of John Cotes, Esq. *Woodcote Ch.*, has an Early Norm. S. door, and other details.

18 m. *Newport Stat.* *Newport (Inn: Royal Victoria)* is a pleasant well-built little place, affording a good market for the agricultural district between Wellington and Stafford. The *ch.* is E. E., and there is a

grammar school here, founded by one William Adams in 1665.

About 1 m. from the town, just outside the Shropshire border, is *Aqualate*, the seat of Sir Thomas Boughey, Bart., in the grounds of which is a very fine mere, from whence it has obtained its name (*Aqua lata*).

$\frac{2}{3}$ m. from Newport, to the N., is the village of *Edmund*, the *ch.* of which contains some fragments of stained glass of rich colour, and of the rarest excellence. Adjoining it is the *Rectory* (Rev. C. F. Pigott), which was formerly a monastic establishment. It is of the date of the 14th centy., but of its history little or nothing is known.

$1\frac{1}{4}$ m. to the N. is *Chetwynd Park* (R. Fisher, Esq.), formerly the seat of the Chetwynds, whose heiress married Sir Richard de Peshale, Sheriff of Shropshire in 1333. The Pigott family was subsequently seated here for 12 generations. The park contains fallow deer, "but this is not the original park, for there had been one before, as appears by an inquest on the death of John de Chetwynd in 1281."

Immediately beyond Newport the boundary line between the counties is crossed and the rly. enters Staffordshire (*Handbook for Staffordshire*).

ROUTE 9.

FROM SHREWSBURY TO CHIRK.

Great Western Railway.

Quitting Shrewsbury from the General Railway Stat., the traveller passes through a pretty wooded country, though not much is visible on account of the extent of cutting. 1 m. l. is *Berwick Hall* (Hon. H. W. Powis). Observe the fine iron gates here.

2 m. on each side of the line is a sheet of water, known respectively as *Almond* and *Hencott Pools*. These small meres are rather a peculiarity in the portion of the county between Shrewsbury and Ellesmere, although not so large or so frequent as they are in Cheshire.

$\frac{4}{3}$ m. *Leaton Stat.* On l. are *Leaton Knolls* (C. S. Lloyd, Esq.), and *The Isle* (H. Sandford, Esq.), prettily situated within a horseshoe bend of the Severn.

$7\frac{1}{2}$ m. *Baschurch Stat.* On *Berth Hill*, 1 m. to the rt., are some ancient fortifications, surrounded by a circular vallum, the whole defended by a deep pool at the bottom of the eminence. The *ch.* contains some Norm. work in the tower and S. aisle. Baschurch is the place mentioned as "the Churches of Bass" by Llywarch Hên, in the elegy on the fall of Cyndelan, and, strange to say, an eminent Shropshire antiquary found proof in this against the authenticity of the poem, for he says, "Bass" is a Saxon name, forgetting Martial's epigram "Ad Bassam," and that there were no Christian churches in England then. Between 2 and 3 m. to the rt. of Baschurch are the scanty fragments of *Middle Castle*, built by the Lords le Strange in the reign of Edward III. In the neighbourhood of Baschurch are *Walford*

Manor (T. C. Eyton, Esq.) and *Hall* (Capt. Kenyon).

Marton and Fennymeres Pools, near this, are of considerable size. [2 m. l. *Ruyton*, of the 11 towns, is thought by many antiquaries to be identical with the Roman station Rutunium. The ch. contains some E. Norm. details in the chancel. "Here was the seat of the great Le Strange family, which appears to have been imparked by John Le Strange about the year 1195, when he came to the following agreement with Hugh abbot of Shrewsbury. The abbot conceded to Le Strange a corner of his wood of Birch, extending from the place where Le Strange's park-fence came down to the water of Peveree to the end of Le Strange's meadow on the side of Plettebrug Mill. This was to enlarge Le Strange's park, and he was to pay a rent of one doe yearly in acknowledgment."—*Shirley*.] 9 m. on l. is *Boreatton Park* (R. Hunt, Esq.), and on rt. 3 m. is *Petton* (W. Sparling, Esq.).

13½ m. *Rednall Stat.*, in the neighbourhood of which are *Woodhouse* (W. M'Owen, Esq.), *Aston*, the beautiful seat of Mrs. Lloyd, and *Tedsmere* (T. B. Owen, Esq.).

16 m. WHITTINGTON JUNC. for Ellesmere and Whitchurch (Rte. 10). On rt. are the ruins of the *Castle*, held after the Conquest by Earl Roger de Montgomery. It still possesses fragments of 8 towers (4 of which are attached to the keep), moat, and vestiges of other defensive works. It is said to have been the birthplace of Fulke Fitzwarene, whose history is connected with that of Ludlow Castle (Rte. 1). Near Whittington is *Park Hall* (R. H. Kinchant, Esq.), a beautiful Elizabethan gabled timber mansion. At the W. end is the domestic chapel consecrated by Archbishop Parker.

18 m. GOBOWEN JUNC. for Os-

westry, Welshpool, Newtown, and Aberystwith.

The first station on this Cambrian section is *Oswestry* (*Hotel*: Wynnstay Arms, very comfortable)—a pleasant busy Shropshire town of some 9000 Inhab., situated amongst prettily wooded hills in the district lying between Watt's and Offa's Dyke—the former, indeed, passing close to the N.E. outskirts. Though within the Shropshire border, its neighbourhood to Wales gives it much the character of a Welsh town, and as much Welsh as English, if not more, may be heard spoken here on a market-day. Formerly called Maserfield, it derived its subsequent name of Oswestry from the Northern King Oswald and the adjunct "tre" or town. The like conjunction of a Saxon proper name with the British "tre," a township, may be observed in Ingestre, the vill of Inge, a manor near Stafford, now belonging to the Earl of Shrewsbury. Oswald was King of Northumberland, and was slain here in battle in 642, while endeavouring to dispossess Penda, King of Mercia, of his territory. As he had been a benefactor to many monasteries, he was, of course, canonized, and the well erected to the memory of St. Oswald still remains a little distance from the ch. It was formerly well guarded by a castle, which stood on an eminence to the N., and walls in which were 4 gates, known as Black-gate, New-gate, Willow-gate, and Beatrice-gate. The mound is now prettily planted and laid out with walks. The ch. is a venerable-looking building, occupying the site of a conventual establishment. In the interior is a monument to Hugh Gale, Alderman, 1616, and Dorothy his wife. According to Leland, "it was much injured during the siege in 1644, when the Royalists demolished the tower which stood without the town walls, to avoid the risk of annoyance from its summit."

There are still some interesting timber-houses in the town, which maintains the character given it by Churchyard :—

“ This towne doth front on Wales as right as
lyne,
So sundrie townes in Shropshire doe for troth
As Ozestri, a prettie town full fine,
Which may be lov'd, be likte and prayesd both.
It stands so trim and is mayntayned so cleane,
And peopled is with folke that well doe mean,
That it deserves to be enrouled and ahynd.
In each good heart and every manly mynd.”

About 1 m. to the N. stands *Old Oswestry*, otherwise called *Caer Ogyrfan*, a fine British post, defended by a triple rampart of unusual height. The total fortifications covered a space of between 40 and 50 acres, exclusive of the area, which is about 16. A local tradition inclines to the belief that the ancient town stood here, and has gradually travelled away to its present position. There is another entrenchment, called *Castell Brogyntyn*, of a circular form and surrounded by a dyke, supposed to have been erected by one Brogyntyn, a natural son of Owen Madoc, Prince of Powis. It is situated on the W. border of the park of *Porkington*, the beautiful seat of W. Ormsby Gore, Esq. The heiress of the family of Laken, in whose possession it originally was, conveyed it by marriage into that of Maurice, whose granddaughter married John Owen. Their son, Sir John, was a devoted Royalist; but in a bold attempt to lay siege to Carnarvon, which was then held by the Republicans, he was worsted and taken prisoner. His behaviour, when on his trial at Windsor, was bold and characteristic, and he was condemned by his judges to be beheaded—“upon which he made a low reverence to the court, and with much gravity returned them his humble thanks. A bystander had the curiosity to ask him the meaning of such strange behaviour, and to all appearance so much out of place,

when he replied aloud, ‘It is a great honour for a poor gentleman of Wales to lose his head with noble lords, for I was afraid they would have hanged me.’ But the stout knight had the good fortune to escape the great honour. Ireton proved his advocate in the House of Commons, and so successfully, that he was allowed to die in Heaven’s good time, with his head upon his shoulders.”—*Burke*. Oswestry is a corporate town and holds sessions for its own borough, at which a Recorder presides. It possesses a handsome Town-hall, a House of Industry outside the town, and a Grammar School, founded in Henry IV.’s time by one David Holbeck.

Rail to Chester, 21 $\frac{1}{2}$ m.; Whitchurch and Shrewsbury, 21; Whittington, 2; Welshpool, 16; Llany-mynach, 5 $\frac{1}{2}$; Newtown, 30; Ellesmere, 11 m.

Distances.—Llanrhaidr-yn-Mochnant, 14 m.; Pistyll-Rhaiadr, 18 m.; Llanfyllin, 14 m.

Two excursions within the Shropshire border can be taken from Oswestry.

1. To Llany-mynach by rail, the main line of the Cambrian system to Machynlleth, Aberystwith, Llanidloes, and S. Wales.

The rly. leaves Oswestry, and runs due S. nearly parallel with Watt’s Dyke, on the l., leaving on the rt. the turnpike road to Llany-mynach.

2 m. *Sweeny Hall*, and l. 1 m. *Aston* (Mrs. Lloyd).

3 m. *Llyncllys Stat.*, near which is a small lake. On l. is the village of Moreton. The line is here crossed by a tram-road, which conveys a large quantity of lime from the mountain-limestone quarry of Porth-y-waen to a wharf on the Ellesmere Canal.

The abrupt hill of *Llany-mynach* (in a detached portion of Denbighshire) rises with precipitous escarp-

ment on rt., and forms a striking feature in the landscape. It possesses valuable limestone quarries, producing about 90,000 tons annually. Copper seems also to have been worked here by the Romans, who have left traces of their excavations in a large cave or Ogo, at the end of which, in 1761, were found several skeletons, together with some tools, and coins of the reign of Antoninus. Offa's Dyke is carried along the W. brow of the hill, which is worth ascending for the sake of the beautiful view, particularly towards the Berwyns.

The village of *Llanymynach* is situated on the line of Offa's Dyke, and on the l. bank of the *Vrywny* river, which here forms the boundary between Shropshire and Montgomeryshire. From LLANYMYNACH JUNC. branches are given off to *Llan-y-blodwell* (*Handbook for N. Wales*) and to Shrewsbury, 18 m., joining the Minsterley Rly. at *Red Hill Stat.* (Rte. 10).

2. By road to *Llanyblodwell*. 1 m. rt. are *Broomhall* (Mrs. Aubrey), and *Llanforda*, the seat of H. B. W. Wynn, Esq. 2 m. rt. a road, which soon crosses Offa's Dyke, runs to *Llanrhaidr-yn-Mochnant*, 9½ m. At *Trefonen*, 2¼, the Dyke falls into the road for a short distance, and at 5 m. the *Shrewsbury*, *Llanrhaidr*, and *Bala* road here crosses at right angles, leaving on l. *Llanymynach Hill*. Follow this road for 1 m. to *Llanyblodwell*, a pretty village on the l. bank of the *Tanat*, which soon afterwards joins the *Vrywny*. Its ch. was restored and an octagonal tower erected by the late Rev. John Parker, one of the first of Welsh archaeologists, who possessed an unique collection of drawings relative to the architecture and ecclesiology of the district. The road now enters N. Wales. (See *Handbook*.)]

After quitting *Gobowen*, the rly. speedily approaches the outskirts of the hills which have been for many miles looming in the distance, and the country now becomes broken and varied.

4 m. S. is the village of *Dudleston*, which contains several fine seats, such as *Kil-hendre* (Gen. Cotton), *Pentre-heylin* (Capt. Cotton), *Dudleston Hall* (J. Davies, Esq.), *Sodyll Hall* (J. Hodson, Esq.), *Plas Warren* (R. Morrall, Esq.).

19 m. rt. *Belmont* (T. Lovett, Esq.), to the E. of which runs *Watt's Dyke*. This ancient boundary, or more probably a line of defence, commences, or at least is visible for the first time, keeping tolerably parallel with *Offa's Dyke*, which is plainly visible on the high grounds in the parish of *Selattyn*, 3 m. W. of *Gobowen*. Its course is marked near *Craignant* by a tower built for that purpose by Mr. West. *Selattyn* is the burial-place of John Hamner, Bishop of St. Asaph, temp. James I., who left doles to the poor here.

20 m. l. *Quinta* (T. Barnes, Esq.). The rly. now crosses the river *Ceiriog*, and enters *Denbighshire*. The banks of this river are historically celebrated as being the theatre of a bloody fight between the English and Welsh in 1164. *Dafydd*, son of *Owain Gwynedd*, prince of N. Wales, encouraged by the successes of the South Welsh, made a raid upon *Flintshire*, carrying off many prisoners and cattle to the *Vale of Clwyd*, upon which *Henry II.* advanced a large army as far as *Oswestry*. The Welsh retreated to *Corwen*, and were driven back to the *Berwyn Mountains*, though *Henry*, in his turn, was so harassed that he was obliged to decamp, and march back to *England*. The scenery of the *Ceiriog* dingle is very picturesque, and is further enhanced by the engineering works by which the *Ellesmere Canal* and the rly. are

carried across. The *Viaduct*, constructed by Mr. Robertson, the engineer of the line, has 12 arches, of 45 feet span, and is 101 feet in length. The *Aqueduct* is the work of Telford. "The rise of the canal between Whitchurch, Ellesmere, Chirk, and the river Dee, is 13 ft. in the distance of 38 miles, involving only two locks. In order to avoid the expense of constructing numerous locks, which would also involve serious delay and heavy expense in working the navigation, it became necessary to contrive means for carrying the canal on the same level from one side of the respective valleys of the Dee and the Ceiriog to the other; and hence the magnificent aqueducts of Chirk and Pont-Cysylltau, characterised by Phillips as amongst the boldest efforts of human invention in modern times. The aqueduct consists of 10 arches, of 40 ft. span each. The level of the water in the canal is 65 ft. above the meadow, and 70 ft. above the level of the river. It was a very costly structure—20,898*l.*; but Telford, like Brindley, thought it better to incur a considerable capital outlay in maintaining the uniform level of the canal than to raise it and lower it up and down the sides of the valley by locks at a heavy expense in works, and a still greater cost in time and water."—*Smiles*. Telford seems to have been the first who introduced spandril walls into bridges in this country, in place of the former method of cramming the spans with earth and rubbish, which retained the water, and was liable to expand, and burst the side-walls. In his aqueducts he also dispensed with clay puddle, open to the same objection, and employed plates of cast-iron, as may be seen here. From hence the remainder of the rly. to Chester, 22 m., is carried entirely through the counties of Denbigh and Flint (*Handbook for N. Wales*).

ROUTE 10.

FROM SHREWSBURY TO WELSHPOOL.

1. By rail, 20 m. As far as *Hamwood Stat.*, 5 m., the route is the same as that to *Minsterley*. Soon afterwards the Welshpool line diverges to the rt., passing, $7\frac{1}{2}$ m., *Yockleton Stat. The Hall* (T. J. Nicholls, Esq.).

11 m. *Westbury Stat.* To the l. is *Whilton Hall* (Miss Topp), and about $1\frac{1}{2}$ m. to the S., overlooking the valley of the Rea, is *Caus Castle*, an old border stronghold, in which traces of keep and wall are still visible. "Exposed to all the turmoil of a hostile position, here dwelt the eldest of two English sons of Corbet the Norman. On the right were the mountain fastnesses of Powisland, and on the three other sides Roger FitzCorbet's position was immediately or remotely backed by the strongholds and manors of his own English vassals, or of his brother the Lord of Longden. Further off in front, looking over *Minsterley*, and across the valley of the Rea, the eye rested on the Forest of Stiperstones, over a chace of Saxon kings, but appropriated, with all its rights as a royal forest, by the Barons of

Caus." Caus Castle is finely situated on an insulated ridge rising from a ravine which fronts the Stiper Stones.

1½ m. *Middletown Stat.*, from whence to Welshpool the rly. runs very near

2. The turnpike-road, which leaves Shrewsbury by the Welsh Bridge, and through the suburb of Frankwell. At 1½ m. a road diverges to Oswestry at Shelton, where the remains of Owain Glyndwr's oak may be seen (Rte. 8).

3 m. l. *Onslow Hall* (J. Wingfield, Esq.), once the residence of Speaker Onslow.

[5½ m. Soon after crossing the Shrewsbury and Llanymynach Rly., a road on rt. runs to Llanrhaiadr-y-Mochnant, passing, 9 m., Alberbury, close to which is *Loton*, the beautiful seat of Sir Baldwin Leighton, Bart. Adjoining Alberbury ch. are traces of the walls of an old castle of the Fitzwarrennes. In this parish are two farms called White and Red Abbey, but they were originally portions of a priory of the Benedictine order of Grandmont, founded in 1076 by Fulke Fitzwarrene. The deer-park extends for a considerable distance up the slopes of the Breidden Hills, which for the whole way from Shrewsbury have been most conspicuous features in the landscape. The ch. contains monuments, brasses, and a memorial window to the Leightons, also one to the family of Lyster, and several to that of Lloyd. At 11 m. the Severn is joined by the Vyrnwy, near which, on rt., is a singular conical mound called *Belan Bank*, probably used to guard the passage of the river, which is crossed by a narrow bridge, at 13 m. the village of Llandrinio, in Montgomeryshire.]

6 m. l. *Cardeston*. 7 m. rt. *Rowton Castle*, the seat of H. Lyster,

Esq. It was formerly in the hands of the Corbets and the Le Stranges, and passed by purchase to the Lysters, one of whom, Sir Thomas Lyster, a zealous loyalist, was taken prisoner at Shrewsbury; but his wife held the castle so gallantly against Col. Mytton, that she succeeded in making good terms for her husband.

A little beyond Rowton is an old feudal residence called *Wattlesborough Castle*, one of those few Shropshire estates which have never been bartered for gold, since it was tenanted by the Normans. The remains consist of a single low square Norman tower and north wing, with blocked Norm. semicircular windows. Four other towers are said to have existed, and to have been removed to furnish building materials for Alberbury ch. The tower was once higher, and has been finished off with a low roof. It is now inhabited by a farmer, but was originally the property of the Corbets, the Mouthés, the Burgha, and the Leightons.

The road now begins to leave the pleasant flats of Shropshire, and to ascend the slopes of the Breidden Hills.

10½ m. rt. is the village of *Woolaston*, near which are a few early remains in the shape of tumuli and a moat. *Winnington*, in this parish, was the birthplace of Thomas Parr, commonly called Old Parr, who was born in the reign of Edward IV., and died in that of Charles I., after a life of 152 years. At the age of 122, he married a Welsh girl, and three years afterwards was obliged to do penance in the ch. of Alberbury for forgetting his marriage vows, and having an illegitimate son by a girl named Catherine Milton. He was afterwards sent for to London to see the king, who observed that he had lived longer than most men, and wished to know, what more he had done than most men. Old Parr, taken aback by the question, could think of

nothing better than his affair with Catherine Milton, on which the king reproved him, saying, "Fie! can you remember nothing but your vices?" The *Breidden Hills*, the steep wooded sides of which tower over the road, are a singular group, rising to the height of 1199 ft., though they appear more, in consequence of their isolation. The most precipitous peak is that of *Moel-y-golfa*, nearest Welshpool, which is divided from the other heights by a deep ravine. The most northerly summit, overlooking the Severn, is crowned with *Rodney's Pillar*, erected to commemorate the victory obtained by that Admiral over the French fleet in 1782. At the foot of the magnificent wood-covered escarpment stands the village of *Criggon*, with its picturesque little red sandstone church. On the hill which rises behind the pillar are traces of an ancient fortress, as also of a considerable encampment at *Cefn-y-Castell*, behind *Moel-y-golfa*, which last peak ought to be ascended. The view is very charming, and particularly towards the N.W. and W., looking over Oswestry and the red hills of Llanymynach, backed up by the noble ranges of the Berwyns. To the E. the eye glances over the rich campaign flats of the Severn, with Haughmond Hill, the Hawkstone ridge, and the spires of Shrewsbury, in the distance. Southward the most prominent feature is the Long Mountain, with its monotonous outline. Geologically considered, these mountains are interesting, as marking a line of eruption ranging from S.W. to N.E. They are "a mass of porphyritic and amygdaloidal greenstone, which in its protrusion has carried up included portions of slaty rocks, and has thrown off pebblebeds and Upper Silurian (of the Long Mountain) to the S.E., and Lower Silurian to the N.W."—*Murchison*. The botanist will find on the Breiddans, *Potentilla rupestris*,

the only known locality in Great Britain.

From hence the road descends to 16 m. *Buttington*, the *ch.* of which contains a curious font, resembling the capital of an E. E. column.

18 m. *Welshpool* (*Hotel*: Royal Oak). (*Handbook for N. Wales*.)

From Shrewsbury to Llanymynach the line branches off from the Welshpool Rly. at 3 m. *Redhill Stat.*, thence running N.W.

4 m. *Hanwood Road*.

7 m. *Cross Gates Stat.*, soon after which the line crosses the Severn, to 2½ m. *Shrawardine Stat.* Here is the site of an ancient *castle*, which at one time belonged to the Fitz-Alans, Earls of Arundel. It was besieged by the Parliamentary forces, and surrendered in three days to Col. Hunt. It was then pulled down, and the stones carried off to repair the castle of Shrewsbury. Saxton's survey mentions a park here.

11½ m. *Nescliff Stat.* *Nescliff Rock* is remarkable for having a cave on its face, said to have been the residence, 1564, of Humphry Kynaston, surnamed the Wild, who was declared an outlaw, and obliged to leave his residence of Middle Castle, which even then was nearly in ruins.

13½ m. *Kinnerley Stat.* A little to the rt. are the village and site of the old castle of *Knockin*.

16 m. *Maesbrook Stat.*

18 m. *Llanymynach*.

22. m. *Llan-y-blodwell* (Rte. 9).

ROUTE 11.

FROM WHITTINGTON JUNCTION TO
WHITCHURCH JUNCTION BY
ELLESMERE.

This line forms a connecting link between the Shrewsbury and Crewe and the Cambrian Rlys., and accommodates a considerable agricultural district in North Shropshire.

1 m. *Fern Hill* (T. Lovett, Esq.).

3 m. rt. *Halston*, the ancestral seat of the Mytton family, one of whom, John Mytton, Esq., as sheriff of the county, had the task of receiving into custody Henry Stafford, Duke of Buckingham, surrendered by the treachery of Humphry Banastre, his steward. It now belongs to E. Wright, Esq. There is a heronry at Halston.

5 m. *Frankton Stat.* The *ch.* (Dec.) was built in 1858, from designs by *Haycock*.

6 m. *Hardwick Hall*, once the seat of the Kynastons; a good house, built in the time and taste of Queen Anne. In the grounds are many beautiful specimens of pines and firs, and among them perhaps the best araucaria in England. One of the ancestors of the Kynastons was noted in the time of Charles I. for his translation into Latin of Chaucer's 'Troilus and Cressida.'

7 m. *Ellesmere Stat.* (*Inns*: Bridge-water Arms; Lion), a pretty town of some 2000 inhabs., placed on the banks of a lake of 150 acres, from whence its Saxon name Aelsmere was derived. It was originally held by Earl Roger de Montgomery, and afterwards by the Crown, who made frequent grants of it, and amongst others one to Prince Dafydd, formerly mentioned as executed at Shrewsbury. It afterwards passed into the hands of Lord Strange, and finally the Egerton family. The late Lord Francis

Leveson Gower, as one of the representatives of the last Egerton Duke of Bridgewater (the Canal Duke), took the name of Egerton and the title of Ellesmere. Its prosperity depends almost entirely on its markets for corn and agricultural produce, which are resorted to by dealers from Liverpool and Chester to supply the manufacturing districts. Malting is the chief business. The site of the Castle is occupied, as at Denbigh, by a bowling-green, which embraces a fine view overlooking Chester and the Broxton Hills, Wrexham and the Caergwrle heights, Castle Dinas Brân and the Berwyns, the Hill of Llanymynach, the Breiddens, Pim Hill, Clee Hills, and the Wrekin. The view is said to extend into 9 counties.

The *church* is cruciform, with a square central tower, nave, chancel, transept, aisles, and 2 chapels. The N. transept and nave were restored by Scott in Dec. style.

The S. or Oteley Chapel has a fine altar tomb with recumbent figures of Sir F. Kynaston and his lady, 1590. There is some very good stained glass. The E. window (by *Evans*); subject, the 4 Evangelists, arms of Dafydd Prince of Wales, Llewelyn Prince of Wales, Sir Roger L'Estrange, and Lord Chancellor Egerton. The W. window is by *Warrington*, and is illustrative of the Christian graces. That in the N. transept is by *Connor*. The Lost Sheep and Prodigal Son, in the S. transept, by *Wailes*.

At the S. end of the Mere is *Oteley Park*, the modern Elizabethan mansion of S. K. Mainwaring, Esq. "Oteley" is mentioned by Saxton as imparked at the beginning of the 14th centy. It now contains 150 acres, and 160 fallow deer. The *Ellesmere Canal*, one of Telford's great works, was considered, previously to the construction of railways, the grand engineering feat of the day. "It consists of a series of

navigations proceeding from the Dee, in the Vale of Llangollen. One branch passes northward, near the towns of Ellesmere, Whitchurch, Nantwich, and the city of Chester, to Ellesmere Port on the Mersey; another in a south-easterly direction, through the middle of Shropshire towards Shrewsbury on the Severn; and a third, in a south-westerly direction by the town of Oswestry, to the Montgomeryshire Canal, near Llanymynach; its whole extent, including the Chester Canal, incorporated with it, being about 112 miles. So great was the favour shown to the scheme at the first meeting held in 1790, that applications were made for four times the disposable number of shares."—*Smiles*.

Distances.—Shrewsbury, by road, 16 m.; Overton, 4.

About 4 m. S. of Ellesmere is *Kenwick*, "a large and important park very conspicuously marked in Saxton's Maps of 1577. This appears to have belonged to Hagmond Abbey, but I have found no mention of the park till the year 1604, when William Penrhyn, writing on the 27th Jan. to Hugh Nanney, observes: 'Sr. Jevan Lloid spent at Kenwik parke fortye markes in takeynge of six young Rascalls.'"—*Shirley*. Rascal deer were lean animals fit neither to hunt nor kill.

10 m. *Welchhampton Stat.*

The line enters Flintshire near

11½ m. *Bettisfield Stat.* A little to the N. is *Bettisfield Park*, an ancient house, the seat of Sir John Hanmer, Bart., containing a considerable library and many family portraits and pictures. Close by the house is one of the two divisions of the watershed that occur in Flintshire, the water flowing southward to the Severn, but N.E. and westward to the Dee. A little to the N. of Bettisfield is *Gredington*, the seat of Lord Kenyon, containing a library collected by the distinguished Chief Justice, founder of that family, and portraits of him-

self and of his contemporary, Lord Thurlow; and to the N. of this again is the village of *Hanmer*, mentioned by Camden in his 'Britannia.' The ch. is of Tudor architecture, commenced to be rebuilt in the reign of Henry VII., after the destruction of the old one in the York and Lancaster wars. It contains some painted windows of modern glass by *Clayton* and *Bell*, a magnificent carved oak ceiling, and various monuments of the Kenyon and Hanmer families, one of whom was Sir Thomas Hanmer, Speaker of the House of Commons in the 18th centy. It is probable that Owain Glyndwr was married in this place, though in the ch. that was afterwards burnt. His wife was Margaret, daughter of Sir David Hanmer, Knt., one of the judges in the King's Bench in the reign of Richard II., resident here in his day, and ancestor of the present owner. In front of the ch. towards the S., extends one of the Meres which give so much beauty to this part of the county.

The rly. now passes through *Fenn's Moss*, a large tract of peaty moorland, grown up on the site of one of the original woods cut down by King Edward I. to clear the country at the settlement of Wales. A considerable establishment for the manufacture of peat-charcoal exists upon it. Some was sent hence to the English camp in the Crimea. At the further side of the Mere is

15 m. *Fenn's Bank Stat.*

17 m. the line crosses the border to

8 m. WHITCHURCH JUNC. (Rte. 12).

ROUTE 12.

FROM SHREWSBURY TO NANTWICH
BY WEM AND WHITCHURCH.

This is an important line in the through route between South Wales and the North. It very soon parts company with the Great Western Rly. and turns to the rt., running tolerably due N. for some distance.

3 m., pretty close to the line on l., is *Battlefield Ch.* (Rte. 8), and $4\frac{1}{2}$ m. is *Hadnall Stat.* In the ch. (to rt.) is a monument to the first Lord Hill, the Commander-in-Chief of the British forces and the hero of Corunna, Talavera, Waterloo, and many other Peninsular battles. Near the stat. is *Hardwicke Grange*, a seat of Lord Hill; and $2\frac{1}{2}$ m. to the E. is the Norm. ch. of *Shawbury*, on the river Roden. The S. door is circular-headed, and has a series of square depressions on the under surface of the arch. There is a fine Saxon font, barrel-shaped, with five rows of mouldings. Shawbury Park was the seat of Giles de Erdington, who had license from Henry III. to make a saltory or deer-leap in it. 1 m. to the N. again is *Moreton Corbet*, an old ruined, castellated mansion, which acquired its second name, as the possession of the Corbet family, to distinguish it from another place called Moreton Turet. The house was begun on a very large scale by Sir Richard Corbet in 1606, and proceeded with by his brother, who admired the Puritans, and gave great protection to them in their hour of need. But the laws becoming very strict against them, he could no longer attempt to give shelter, which so incensed the anger of one of them, that he gave vent to a prophecy that

[*Shropshire, &c.*]

Moreton Corbet should never be finished, but should always remain a ruin. This has been verified since 1644, when the castle was garrisoned for the Parliament, and sustained great damage. The ch. is interesting, and contains an hagiocope, and some monuments of recumbent knights. The tourist may rejoin the rly. at *Yorton Stat.*, 7 m., passing *Acton Reynald*, the beautiful seat of Sir V. Corbet, Bart., which lies very prettily on the slopes of *Grinshill*, a picturesque and conspicuous hill forming part of the Hawkstone range. At Clive, a village on the northern side, copper-mining has been carried on with some success. Close to Yorton is *Sansaw*, the residence of R. Gardiner, Esq., and halfway between Yorton and Baschurch Stat. (about $2\frac{1}{2}$ m. l.) are the scanty remains of *Middle Castle*, built by the Lords le Strange in the reign of Edward III. It was once the residence of Humphry Kynaston, surnamed the Wild, who, when made an outlaw, betook himself for shelter to Nescliff Rock. The ch. contains a brass to one of the Pettons, 1564.

13 m. *Wem Stat.* The town is a pleasantly situated, though dull, little place, dependant almost entirely on the agricultural population around. (*Inn*: White Horse). The buildings are more modern than in most Shropshire towns, owing to a great fire in 1677, which destroyed nearly the whole of it, at a cost of 23,000l. Among the celebrities of Wem was Judge Jeffries, who became the possessor of some property here, and was raised to the peerage by the title of Baron Wem. Subsequently Wem took an active part in the civil war, declaring for the Parliament, and forming a sort of garrison town, from whence Gen. Mytton and his forces issued to ravage and destroy. In a skirmish between Lord Capel on the part of the Royalists and Sir William Brer-

ton, the women distinguished themselves—

"The women of Wem and a few musketeers
Beat Lord Capel and all his cavaliers."

There is but little to see in the place. The *ch.* possesses no interest beyond a lofty spire. There is a free school, founded in the 17th centy. by Sir T. Adams, a native of the town and Lord Mayor of London in 1645, in which year his house was searched in expectation of finding Charles I. in it. He accompanied Gen. Monk to Breda, as Commissioner of the City of London, to congratulate Charles II. on his restoration. In 1660 he was created a Baronet. He had very high impressions as to prerogative, and was therefore called "Prerogative Mayor." He gave up his mansion to endow the school, and also founded an Arabic Professorship, at Cambridge, in 1669. Wem was also the birthplace of Wycherley, the dramatist, in 1640, and author of 'The Plaine Dealer;' of John Ireland, author of 'Illustrations of Hogarth,' in 1786.

3 m. to the W. is *Loppington House* (T. Dicken, Esq.), through the grounds of which the river Roden runs.

An omnibus runs daily from Wem to $4\frac{1}{2}$ m. Hawkstone Inn, at the entrance of the splendid domain of *Hawkstone*, the seat of Viscount Hill, which for extent, natural diversified beauty, and landscape gardening, surpasses everything in Shropshire. The house, which is partly of the time of Queen Anne, is under the northern slope of the Hawkstone Hills, commanding a very fine view, in which a lake about 2 m. long is conspicuous. The rooms best worth visiting are the library, the chapel, on the ceiling of which is a curious emblematical painting of Time putting Error to flight by the revelation of Truth, and the museum, in which is one of the

most extensive collection of birds in the kingdom. From the rocky and broken character of the ground, great scope has been given for tunnels, sudden surprises, waterfalls, and other pretty conceits. Amongst the attractions are *Red Castle*, a few ruined walls occupying a precipitous knoll, the menagerie, and the obelisk, which overlooks the greater portion of North Shropshire, and was erected in memory of Sir Rowland Hill, the first Protestant Lord Mayor of London. About a mile to the S. is an earthwork known as *Bury Walls*. Of it Camden says, "Here is a spot of ground where a small city once stood, the very ruins of which are almost extinct; but the Roman coyns that are found there, with such bricks as they used in building, are evidence of its antiquity and founders. The people affirm it to have been very famous in King Arthur's days." The park is 1200 acres in extent, and contains 500 black fallow deer and 30 Barbary deer. It is said to have been disparked about 1770 and restored in 1830.

Few families have given to the service of their country so many men of note as the family of Hill; for, in addition to the Commander-in-Chief, his brother, Sir Noel Hill (died 1832), rose to high rank in the army. Sir Richard Hill, an ancestor, and M.P. for Salop in 1733, was a famous controversialist, and his language was so scriptural and quaint that he was called the Scriptural Killigrew. His younger brother again, Rowland Hill, was the famous preacher. Nor must we omit Sir Rowland Hill, of Post Office fame, to whom we owe the greatest boon of modern days—the establishment of the Penny Post. If the visitor to Hawkstone does not wish to return to Wem, he can leave the park by the E. lodge and proceed to Hodnet Stat., 2 m., on the Market Drayton line (Rte. 7).

Quitting Wem Stat., the line runs

northward, leaving the villages of *Edeloston* (the ch. of which has a Norm. doorway) and *Whizall* to the l. and *Prees* to the rt. *Prees Ch.* stands on a knoll of Lias formation. Jas Fleetwood, Bishop of Worcester, was vicar here in 1638. The *Vicarage* (Ven. Archdeacon Allen). *Prees Hall* (Col. Hill). Near Prees is *Sandford* (T. H. Sandford, Esq.), the manor of which was granted to Thomas Sandford by William the Conqueror, to be held by the military tenure of supplying one horseman for the defence of Montgomery Bridge. Fuller remarks about Nicholas Sandford, sheriff of Shropshire, temp. Richard II., "The ancient name is still extant, at the same place in this county, in a worshipful equipage. Wellfare a clear token thereof; for in the list of such as compounded for their reputed delinquency in our late civil wars, I find Francis Sandford, Esq., paying 45*l.* for his composition." Leland also says, "Sandford dwelleth at Sandforde, wher is only his place, and a parke three miles be south from Whitchurch." An occasional view on l. is offered of the Peckforton and Broxton Hills in Cheshire.

19 m. WHITCHURCH JUNC. with the Ellesmere and Aberystwith line (Cambrian system). The town (*Inns*: Swan, Victoria) is a thriving, busy country place, the metropolis of a considerable agricultural district, and possessing the usual institutions. But there is little worth seeing but the *ch.*, which, although of heavy Romanesque architecture outside, contains a pinnacled tower, an apse, some good stained glass, and interesting monuments to members of the Talbot family, Earls of Shrewsbury. Here lies John the first Earl, a Marshal of the Realm of France, killed at the battle of Bordeaux, 1453, "who was so renowned in France that no man in that king-

dom dared to encounter him in single combat." His effigy represents him in full armour, with the mantle of the Order of the Garter, and his feet resting on a hound or talbot. There is also one to Christopher Talbot, his 4th son, Archdeacon of Chester.

Whitchurch retains none of those antiquities from which it derived its name of *Album Monasterium* or *Blanc Minster*; nor of its ancient castle, ruins of which were visible as late as 1760. The *Grammar School*, restored from Elizabethan designs, was founded by Sir John Talbot in the reign of Edward VI. Amongst the natives of the town were Dr. Bernard, the biographer of Abp. Usher, and Abraham Wheelock, a celebrated linguist.

Distances.—Malpas, 5½ m.; Combermere Abbey, 4½; Wrenbury, 5; Nantwich, 9; Shrewsbury, 19; Ellesmere, 11 m.

Passing on rt. two meres close to the rly. named Blake and Oss mere respectively, the traveller enters Cheshire. At Blakemere was once a park, mentioned by Leland. "From Whitchurch a mile and a half I cam by the pale of the large parke of Blackmer, longyng to the Erle of Shrewsbiri, wherein is a very fair place or loge. The parke hath both red deere and falow. In the parke (as I herd say) be iii faire poles of the wich I saw by the pale the largest caullid Blakein, whereof the parke is named." There was another park at *Ighifield*, 3 or 4 m. S.E. of Whitchurch, where "Syr Richard Manoring, chefe of that name, dwellith, having a parke and plenty of woode about him." For remainder of route to Nantwich and Crewe, see CHESHIRE (Rte. 13).

ROUTE 13.

FROM WHITCHURCH TO STOCKPORT
BY NANTWICH, CREWE, AND
ALDERLEY.

Soon after leaving WHITCHURCH JUNC. (Rte. 12), and passing the lakelets of Blakemere and Osmere, both good localities for wild fowl, the rly. crosses the boundary between Shropshire and Cheshire, leaving on l. *Marbury Hall*, very prettily situated, overlooking the mere and village of the same name. To the rt. is Combermere Abbey, to visit which the traveller will have to retrace his steps from

5 m. *Wrenbury Stat.* (Inn: Salamanca, clean and quiet). The ch. has nave, side aisles, with clerestory, and chancel. It contains an oak roof, and some monuments by *Bacon* to the Cottons of Combermere, Mrs. Starkey of Wrenbury Hall, and to Mrs. Jennings, 1808.

Baddiley Hall, a little to the N., is a timber-and-plaster farmhouse, for many centuries the seat of the Malbons. It is about

2 m. to *Combermere Abbey*, the beautiful seat of Viscount Combermere, situated in the midst of very charming woods, and overlooking the mere of the same name. This is one of the most picturesque of the Cheshire meres, an irregular sheet of water, covering some 130 acres, and of great depth.

Leland mentions a circumstance respecting the subsidence of ground here, which almost looks like an attempt to explain the formation of the lake: "A mile from Combermere Abbey, in time of mind, sank a pease of a hill, having trees on hit, and after in that pitte sprang salt water, and

the abbate ther began to make salt; but the men of the wichis compond with the abbay that ther should be no salt made. The pitte yet hath salte water, but much filthe is faullen into it." The "wich" mentioned here probably applies to the neighbouring town of Nantwich, the ch. of which belonged to the monastery of Combermere. Of this monastery, founded in the 12th centy. by Hugh de Malbanc for Cistercian monks, no trace is left, but the present Gothic mansion is built on the site, and the library is believed to have been the refectory. It contains some interesting wood carving, and the heraldic history of the family of Cotton, emblazoned on the walls and ceiling. In the armoury is a collection of weapons and trophies brought from India by Sir Stapleton Cotton, 1st Viscount Combermere (died 1865). The family of Cotton has been settled here for several generations, one of its earliest members, George Cotton, having been described in King's 'Vale Royal' as "a man of singular account for wisdom, integrity, godlinesse, gentlenesse, facility, and all generous dispositions." At the Dissolution, the abbey was given to George Cotton, and the family received its first honours from Charles II., who created Sir Robert Cotton a baronet. The peerage was granted in 1826 to the late Viscount, Sir Stapleton Cotton, as a mark of acknowledgment for his services in India and the Peninsula. He was the friend and brother in arms of the Duke of Wellington, who frequently stayed here, and planted with his own hands an oak, which still thrives under his name.

Strangers are allowed access to the grounds of Combermere on application to the agent; and fishing is permitted in the Mere on Tuesdays. Tickets at 1s. a party are to be obtained at the inn at Wrenbury; but three days' notice is required.

Immediately on leaving Wrenbury

the line crosses the Weaver in a very early part of its course, and runs through a flat though pleasant dairy farming district—passing 1. *Dorfold Hall*, the seat of Wilbraham Tolle-mache, Esq. The estate has been in the possession of the Wilbrahams since the time of Elizabeth, but it was sold to the Tomkinson family in 1754, and was curiously brought back again to the Wilbrahams by marriage of the present owner with the heiress of the Tomkinsons. The house, which is approached from the high road by an avenue, is an interesting Elizabethan brick building of bays and gables; the drawing-room possesses a fine carved ceiling and chimney piece. In the Civil War Dorfold was besieged twice, once in 1643 by Lord Capel, who held possession for one night only, and a little later on by Lord Byron. On rt. is *Shevbridge Hall* (W. H. Hornby, Esq.).

9 m. NANTWICH JUNC. with the Great Western Rly. from Wellington and Wolverhampton (Rte. 7). The traveller is now on the borders of the land of the "wiches," that give to the county of Cheshire those special features and characteristics derived from the salt supplies which are so bountifully yielded by Nature from the Triassic or New Red sandstone strata. Drayton thus speaks of them:—

The Nant Wyche and the North—whose
either brynne well
For store and sorts of salts, maketh Weever
to excel."

The town of *Nantwich* (Inn: Lamb), although formerly it produced more salt than all the Cheshire springs put together, now yields less than any. In Camden's time salt was the principal support of the town. "Nantwich, the first that is visited by the Wever, is called by the Welsh Hellath Wen, that is, White-salt-wich, because the whitest salt is made here; by the Latins,

Vicus Malbanus, probably from William called Malbedeng and Malbanc, who had it given him upon the Norman conquest. There is but one salt pit (they call it the Brine pit), distant about 14 feet from the river. From this Brine pit they convey salt water by wooden troughs into the houses adjoining, where there stand ready, little barrels fixed in the ground, which they fill with that water; and at the notice of a bell, they presently make a fire under their leads, whereof they have six in every house for boiling the water. These are attended by certain women called Wallers, who with little wooden rakes draw the salt out of the bottom of them, and put it in baskets, out of which the liquor runs, but the salt remains and settles."

Nantwich, although a good deal modernised and improved, still contains narrow streets and Elizabethan timber houses, which give it a particularly quaint and old-fashioned air. The principal object of interest is the church, a very fine red sandstone cruciform building of the 14th cent., with an octagonal embattled tower, nave, side aisles, transept, and chancel. The choir is vaulted with stone, and contains some stalls of carved oak, said to have been brought from Vale Royal Abbey; also a fine Perp. E. window. There are monuments to the Wilbrahams, an altar-tomb of red sandstone, supposed, on the authority of the Harleian MSS., to be that of Sir John Cradock; tombs of the Maistersons, an ancient local family; and a painting of an old woman in large ruffs, praying.

In Hospital Street stood the Hospital of St. Nicholas, and there are still the almshouses founded by Sir Edmund Wright in 1638. At the end of the Welsh Row are others, founded by a Wilbraham, 1613; and in Beam Street, those erected by John Crewe, 1767. The Free School in the churchyard was the ancient hall of the Guild of Nantwich. The

only fortress mentioned in Domesday as existing in this hundred was probably, according to Ormerod, built for the protection of the Earl of Mercia's mansion in the neighbouring village of Acton. It was this that induced the inhabitants to make a stand against the Roman army in its advance upon Chester. Of this castle of Wych Malbanke, there is not the slightest trace. Nantwich was the birthplace of Thomas Harrison, the regicide, John Gerarde, the herbalist (1545), and Geoffrey Whitney, an Elizabethan poet, and author of the 'Choice of Emblemes.'

Amongst the modern institutions are a middle-class grammar school, built and endowed by Mr. Wilbraham in 1858, and a townhall, opened in 1868. The annals of the town record its severe sufferings by fire, which has twice nearly consumed it—in 1458 and 1583, and also by plague, which in 1604 carried off more than 500 people. In 1642 Nantwich made a show of resistance against the Royal authority, when Lord Grandison was sent against it, and soon caused the defensive works to be pulled down. Two years later, the neighbourhood was occupied by Lord Byron for the King, against whom Sir Thomas Fairfax and Sir William Brereton advanced. The Irish troops, who formed the greater part of the garrison, underestimated the strength of the parliamentary forces. "This made them keep their posts too long; and when they found it necessary to draw off, a little river, which divided their forces, on a sudden thaw, so much swelled above its banks that the Lord Byron, with the greatest part of the horse and the foot, which lay on one side of the town, were severed from the rest, and compelled to march four or five miles before he could join with the others, before which time the other part, being charged by Sir Thomas Fairfax on the one side, and from the town on the other, were broken,

and all the chief officers forced to retire to Acton Church, where they were caught as in a trap; and the horse, by reason of the deep ways with the sudden thaw, and the narrow lanes and great hedges, not being able to relieve them, were compelled to yield themselves prisoners to those, whom they so much despised two hours before. There were taken, besides, all the chief and considerable officers of foot, some 1,800 common soldiers, and all their cannons and carriages, the Lord Byron and his horse, and the rest of the foot, retiring to Chester."—*Clarendon*.

Acton Ch., 1½ m. on the Chester road, has a nave and aisles, chancel, tower, and chapel, belonging to the Halls of Dorfold and Woodley. In the interior is a monument to Sir Richard Wilbraham (habited in plate armour) and his wife Elizabeth; also one to Sir William Mainwaring of Peover, under a Gothic canopy, on which are heads of ecclesiastics. In the S. wall is a piscina.

In the neighbourhood of Nantwich are *Dorfold Hall* (Wilbraham Tollemache, Esq.), *Pool Hall* (Sir Charles Cuyler, Bart.), *Rookery Hall* (J. R. Court, Esq.), *Reesheath* (H. Leader, Esq.), *Shewbridge Hall* (W. H. Hornby, Esq.), &c.

Railways from Nantwich to Whitchurch, 9 m.; Shrewsbury, 28 m.; Crewe, 4 m.; Market Drayton, 12 m.; Wellington, 29 m.

Distances, to Middlewich, 10 m.; Northwich, 16 m.

11 m. *Wistaston Stat.* During the Reformation, a family named Minshull lived at Wistaston, one of whom, Elizabeth Minshull, became Milton's third wife.

The rly. joins the main line from London to the North at

13 m. *CREWE JUNC.* (*Hotel*: Crewe Arms, adjoining the station; very comfortable). Crewe is one of those extra-

ordinary instances of a town of completely modern growth, brought to life and fostered entirely by the railway system. "Within the memory of many it was an estate called 'Oak Farm,' bought by a Nantwich attorney for 35*l.* an acre, and subsequently sold by him, when the land was wanted for railway purposes, at the profitable rate of 500*l.* an acre. When Mr. Locke traced the line of the Grand Junction, it passed through Oak Farm, and by an Act of Parliament the proprietor was paid for all land encroached on and used. Fortune's frolic continued to enrich him. The people of Chester would have a short cut to London, and their line came out at Crewe exactly across Oak Farm, whilst the Manchester men, equally impatient of delay, took another short cut in another direction, and their line also came out at Oak Farm. The result every railway traveller northward must have seen, as there are now no less than six great lines radiating from it." Indeed, the very name of the station owes itself to railway brevity, for the proper name of the parish is Church Coppenhall, but it was felt that it would be such a serious loss of time for a porter to shout out this long word that Crewe, the name of Lord Crewe's domain adjoining, was substituted. The town itself, with its population of between 5000 and 6000 people, is entirely made up of artisans and officials connected with the London and North-Western Rly., who possess here not only one of the largest junctions in the world, but an enormous establishment for making everything used on the railway. The interest of the visitor will altogether centre on the station and the railway works. To visit the latter, a letter had better be addressed to the Chief Superintendent the day before, explaining the object of the visitor, who, if permission be granted, will be required to enter his name in a book, and will then

be accompanied round the works by an official, who will explain as much as may be considered desirable. The station is now a very fine one, having been very much enlarged and almost rebuilt in 1867. The platform is half a mile in length, and contains subsidiary platforms for the branch lines to the Potteries and Shrewsbury. The refreshment and waiting-rooms are comfortable and convenient, and all the offices and arrangements for the traffic are as perfect as can be desired, and as are requisite for a station which, with passengers and goods, has 500 trains a day passing through it. From the main line between London and Carlisle are branches to Manchester, Chester for Holyhead, Derby and the Potteries, and Shrewsbury, so what with arrivals and departures there is very little repose indeed at Crewe station. The most striking and characteristic part of the day is from 12 to 2 p.m., during which time the fast Northern trains arrive, and are broken up into their several divisions, while the passengers dive into the refreshment-rooms like rabbits into a warren.

The factory district of Crewe lies altogether to the N. of the station, and the visitor should be exceedingly careful to follow close to his guide's footsteps, and never by any chance to cross a rail without looking up and down it to notice whether any engine may be coming along. Should he get confused with the number of parallel rails, and be uncertain how far he can cross in safety, the wisest plan, as a rule, is to stand quiet, the chances otherwise being in favour of his getting knocked down and run over. The first object that attracts attention is the *Engines shed*, a vast multangular building containing 32 lines of rails, each line having room for 5 engines, so that, when full, 160 engines may repose after their labours.

Further on are the locomotive fac-

tories where the company manufacture every engine that they use; and some idea may be formed of the number always in progress, when it is known that for the last 20 years a new engine and tender have been turned out complete every week, at an average value of 2000*l.* each.

Here may be seen locomotives in every possible stage of progress, from detached chimneys, the skins (so to speak) and the ribs of boilers, and all the various parts and appliances scattered about, to the brand new and conscious-looking engine that, bright with paint and brass, is ready to commence its journey on the morrow. In another department is a hospital for decayed and damaged engines, in which skilful surgeons carry their art of conservative surgery to the utmost, and by putting in a patch here, and cutting out a piece there, the invalid is made fit for duty again, although in consideration of its accident, it is no longer appointed to express and rapid work, but is delegated to the quiet of some short country branch where speed is of less consequence, and where a little extra puffing and wheezing will pass unnoticed.

The whole of the establishment is accompanied by such a tremendous clang of hammers, particularly in the boiler department, that talking is quite out of the question. The main features of the engine factory are similar to those which are to be seen at every large establishment, and therefore need not be specially described; but there are some portions of the machinery which are particularly interesting, such as the planing and slotting machines, Whitworth's reversing machine, the steam hammer, and an ingenious tyre stretching machine, the two latter being the invention of Mr. Ramsbottom, the chief engineer who presides over the whole factory. Round and about the shops are laid very narrow rails for the accommodation

of three miniature engines, Pet, Tiney, and Topsy, which, although looking more adapted in size for a drawing-room ornament, are very useful in bringing the necessary supplies to the workmen. The stores are on a very large scale, and contain every conceivable thing that is in daily use throughout the establishment, including large jars of an oil of fabulous virtues, which is open to the public need, and is instantly applied to every cut, bruise, or other minor accident in the works, which may not be of sufficient importance to demand the doctor's immediate services.

The *steel-works* are about 1 m. further on, and are perhaps the most interesting part of the whole. Steel ingots are made here by Bessemer's process, and it is one of the most beautiful sights in the world to see the blast put on to the huge converter. After a blow of 18 minutes, the spiegeleisen is added, and the whole fiery mass is then decanted out of the converter into the mould—a magnificent exhibition of fireworks and white heat. Attached to these works is an important arrangement of Siemens' gas-generating furnaces, in which the professional visitor will be much interested; and in the rolling-mill are some very clever reversing rollers.

Probably nothing gives the visitor such a good idea of the vast requirements of a large rly., as a visit to Crewe; the prodigious capital that is sunk there, the order and regularity with which every operation is conducted—and the skill and ingenuity with which machinery is brought to bear upon the very smallest portion of the details, are all things to be remembered and wondered at.

The town, although containing nothing but what is of yesterday's date, is well built and adapted for its class of residents. There are a

handsome ch., schools, baths, and all the usual organisation of a place built from settled design and with one purpose.

The country round Crewe is very flat and uninteresting, except in the immediate neighbourhood of *Crewe Hall*, the seat of Lord Crewe, the entrance to which is no great distance from the stat.

A fine avenue leads to the house, which was destroyed by fire in 1866, although it has risen again from its ashes, under the hands of *Edward Barry*. The Crewes were settled here in the beginning of the 12th cent., but the elder branch of the family becoming extinct, the estate passed by marriage into the successive families of *Praer* and *Foulshurst*, the latter an esquire of Lord Audley, who was conspicuous for his gallantry at *Poitiers*. Sir Christopher Hatton then became possessor, and it afterwards reverted to the original owners in the person of Sir Randal Crewe, Lord Chief Justice in the reign of James I. He, however, was dismissed from his office by Charles I. for giving his opinion against the legality of loans without the consent of Parliament. After his death the male line again failed; and the *Offleys*, who had acquired the estate by marriage, and in whose line it has since remained, took the name of *Crewe*.

The original house was built by *Inigo Jones*, in the time of Sir Randal Crewe, and possessed all the peculiarities of that age and architect. During the Civil War it underwent some damage by being garrisoned by the parliamentary troops, but they were obliged to yield to Lord Byron, who, in his turn, was ejected and compelled to return to Nantwich. The restoration has been well carried out according to the original design, from an oil painting in Lord Crewe's possession, and it is now again, as it was before, one of the finest of our

Elizabethan mansions. The hall is of oak with a hammerbeam roof, and lighted by stained glass (*Clayton* and *Bell*) with heraldic devices of the Crewe family. The carved parlour—a very interesting room—has an elaborate wall-framing with bas-reliefs, and a fine alabaster chimney-piece. The picture gallery mantelpiece is decorated with marble busts (by *Weekes*) of Bishop Crewe and Sir Randolph Crewe. The mantelpiece in the drawing-room has a bas-relief from the 'Tempest' by *Armstead*. The library has bas-reliefs of scenes from English poets and oak statuettes of Elizabethan celebrities. The chapel on the ground floor is decorated with stained glass by *Clayton* and *Bell*, and colouring by *Crace*. The arch at the E. end is of marble and alabaster, and the reredos with heads of prophets by *Philip*. The grounds are charmingly laid out, and are ornamented by a considerable lake.

In the village of *Haslington* (nearly 3 m. on the road to Sandbach) is the moated site of the old mansion of the Vernons, which was a parallelogram in shape. Their later residence is now a farmhouse, partly of brick and partly of timber. *Coppenhall Ch.*, of the date of Elizabeth, has its side aisles separated from the nave by wooden pillars. In *Ormerod's* time, "the floor was the bare clay, on which, for the convenience of kneeling, were placed circular lumps of wood chained to the seats."

From Crewe to Manchester the country becomes a little more diversified, as soon as the river *Wheelock* is crossed, near

4 m. SANDBACH JUNC. (Rte. 21), from whence the traveller can proceed to Northwich, the Salt Districts, and Mid-Cheshire generally. The little town of *Sandbach* (*Inn*: *Wheat-sheaf*) is prettily situated on rather high ground, overlooking the *Whee-*

lock, and on the high road between the Potteries and the salt country. In 1651 it was remarkable for a skirmish between the townsmen and Lesley's horse, in their flight from the battle of Worcester. The attack took place in a space to the N.W. of the ch., still called the Scotch Commons. A curious account of this affair was given in the 'Mercurius Politicus' (No. 66), dated from Newcastle-under-Lyne, Sept. 6 :—"They so managed the business that, when the Scots offered to fire, they ran into their houses; and, as soon as that party was past which had the pistols and powder, they fell upon the remainder of the troops, and continued pealing and billing them, during the passage of all their horse."

The church is a fine old building with a tower, nave, chancel, side aisles, and 2 chapels; one of which belongs to the manor of Wheelock, and the other to Bradwall Hall. The nave is somewhat narrow in proportion to its height, and has a fine carved oak roof, dated 1661. The font (1667) is ornamented with acanthus-leaves, and has the following Greek inscription, which may be read both ways :—

ΝΙΨΟΝ ΑΝΟΜΗΜΑ ΜΗ ΜΟΝΑΝ ΟΨΙΝ.

In the interior are monuments to the family of Powys of Wheelock.

The old Hall, now an inn, is a large timber-and-plaster building, with bay windows. The date is of the 17th centy., and it occupies the site of the ancient residence of the Sandbach family.

The chief interest of the town, however, is in its two Crosses, supposed to be of early Saxon date, and the equals of which, for size and beauty of sculpture, are only to be found in Ireland or Scotland. They are in the market-place, on a platform of 2 slabs, at each angle of which are stone posts, with carvings of rude figures. On the E. side of the Great Cross is (1) a circle

containing 3 figures, to one of which the others appear to be paying obeisance. Above this (2) are 3 other figures, the centre one carrying an infant; on l. is a figure with a palm-branch, and a dove over its head; on rt. is a figure with a book in its hand. Above again (3) is our Saviour in a manger, and an angel hovering over him. The lower part of the W. side is filled with (1) dragons with curiously interlaced wings. To this succeeds (2) a mutilated winged figure, and above (3) a winged and sitting figure, supposed to denote the appearance of Gabriel to Zacharias. (4) The Saviour bearing the Cross. (5) The Saviour drawn by a figure holding a rope. The S. side is principally ornamented with foliage. The N. side had apparently 11 figures, supposed to be Apostles; one, a fish with cloven tongue, is supposed to be the Spirit.

The smaller cross is ornamented in a similar manner.

From the frequency of the representation of our Saviour, a tradition exists that the crosses were erected to commemorate the return of Penda from Northumberland, on his missionary errand through the country. Previous to their final re-erection here, through the instrumentality of Mr. Ormerod, the historian of Cheshire, they had undergone great mutations—having been successively moved by Sir John Crewe to Utkinson, afterwards to Tarporley, and then to Oulton Park.

A little to the S. of the town is *Abbeyfield*, the seat of C. Ford, Esq.; and beyond it is the village of *Wheelock*, where there are saltworks. The old residence of the Bradwall family is supposed to have occupied a moated spot between the town and the stat.

At *Hassall*, $1\frac{1}{2}$ m. S.E. of Wheelock, is the old moated residence of the Hassall family, seated here in the

14th and 15th cents. *Bechtton Hall*, between Sandbach and Harecastle, is also a timber-and-plaster farmhouse.

Rly. to Crewe, 4 m.; Stockport, 21; Middlewich, 5; Northwich, 11 m.

Distances. — Nantwich, 9½ m.; Congleton, 7¾ m.

Leaving Sandbach Stat., the rly. passes (rt.) *Bradwall Hall* (G. W. Latham, Esq.), to 8 m. Church Hulme, or more generally

Holmes Chapel Stat., a village on l., prettily placed near the banks of the Dane. The ch. has a tower, nave, chancel, side aisles, and private chapels. The arches that separate the nave and aisles rest on wooden pillars. The N. aisle contains a fragment of shrine-work.

Several places in the neighbourhood show traces of antiquity. *Cotton Hall*, 1 m. l. on road to Middlewich, is an old timber-and-plaster building, now a farmhouse. *Twemlow Hall* (Major France) to the N., the old seat of the Booths, is an old gable house, with a moat; 1½ m. further N., between Holmes Chapel and Chelford, is *Blackden Hall*, a half-timbered gabled house, the residence of the Kinseys, containing some interesting family portraits. *Cranage*, 1½ m. N.W., is on the other side of the Dane, which was formerly crossed by a bridge built by Sir John Nedham, a judge in the reign of Henry VI. *Cranage Hall* is the residence of L. Armitstead, Esq.; and the *Hermilage* of Capt. Swetenham. Brerton, Swetenham, Davenport, and Somerford Halls are all on the line of the road to Congleton (Rte. 21).

The rly. now crosses the Dane at a considerable height, passes rt. *Twemlow Hall* (Major France), and further on, *Jodrell Hall* (Capt. Egerton Leigh); l. *Blackden Hall*; rt. *Withington Hall* (J. Baskervyle-Glegg, Esq.), and *Astle Hall* (J. Dixon, Esq.).

13¼ m. *Chelford Stat.* *Withington*

Hall, 2 m. to the S., is approached by a fine avenue of timber, and the park is otherwise charmingly wooded. The old Hall has been superseded by the present mansion, the family of Baskervyle having been settled here since the reign of Henry III., and taken the additional name of Glegg, on succeeding by marriage to the estates of that family in Gayton-in-Wirral.

2 m. E. of Chelford, on the Macclesfield road, is *Capesthorpe*, the beautiful seat of A. H. Davenport, Esq., a younger branch of the families of the same name seated at Bramhall, and in Staffordshire. Davenport Hall (Rte. 21) is their original residence, Capesthorpe not having come to them until 1748, when it was acquired in marriage with an heiress of John de Ward, in whose family it had been since Edward III.'s reign. Sir Humfrey Davenport was Chief Baron of the Exchequer in Charles I.'s time. One of the honours pertaining to the Davenports was the hereditary possession of the office of Magisterial Serjeants of the Hundred of Macclesfield, it being their duty to perambulate the forests of Macclesfield, Leek, and the Peak, and clear them of banditti. "There is now in the possession of the Capesthorpe family a long roll, containing the names of the master robbers who were taken and beheaded during the tenures of Vivian, Roger, and Thomas De Davenport, and also of their companions, as well as of the fees paid to them in right of their serjeanty. From this it appears that the fee for a master robber was 2 shillings and 1 salmon, and for his companions 12 pence each." — *Ormerod*.

Capesthorpe Hall shared the same fate as Crewe, it having been burnt down in 1861.

The terrace and the conservatory are both particularly striking, the latter having been built from the

designs of the late *Sir J. Paxton*. It contains, among other beauties, some remarkable golden-haired acacias. The well-timbered grounds, through which the road from Stockport to Congleton runs, are ornamented with a fine sheet of water called *Reedsmere*, forming a floating island about $1\frac{1}{2}$ acre in size, which, in strong winds, is blown about here and there. *Aspidium Thalypteris* and *Hippuris vulgaris* are found on Reedsmere. A country legend accounts for the floating island by a story, that a certain knight was jealous of his lady-love, and vowed not to look upon her face until the island moved on the face of the mere. But he fell sick and was nigh to death, when he was nursed back to health by the lady, to reward whose constancy a tremendous hurricane tore the island up by the roots.

To the N. of Capesthorpe, separated by the high road between Knutsford and Macclesfield, is *Alderley Park*, the seat of Lord Stanley of Alderley. The history of the family of Stanley, as represented by the houses of Derby and Stanley of Alderley, is closely identified in many points with the history of England, although the creation of this particular peerage is modern, dating only from 1839, when Sir John Stanley was made Lord Stanley of Alderley. Alderley estate appears to have come into this branch of the family in 1420, by marriage, and, though it became forfeited to the Crown, was purchased again by the first baronet in the 17th centy. The park (not open to visitors) has some magnificent beech-trees, and, like most Cheshire parks, has a large lake, known as *Radnor Mere*. The gardens are noted for their mulberry-trees. This picturesque district is quite a nest of pleasant residences; for, in addition to Alderley and Capesthorpe, there is *Birtles Hall* (J. Hibbert, Esq.), closely adjoining Alderley; *Henbury Hall* (E. Marsland, Esq.), and, a little further S.,

Thorneycroft Hall (Rev. J. Thorneycroft). The visitor cannot have a prettier walk than from Chelford to Capesthorpe,—crossing the high road to Birtles Hall and ivy-covered ch.; and then to Alderley Stat., passing along the southern side of Alderley Edge.

$16\frac{1}{2}$ m. *Alderley Stat.* (*Hotel: Queen's; very good.*) The ch. (restored in 1855; contains a fine monument of Caen stone by *Westmacott* to the first Lord Stanley of Alderley, and to Dr. Stanley, Bishop of Norwich. The proximity of this charming neighbourhood to the manufacturing districts of Stockport and Manchester has made it not only a favourite locality for a day's "outing," but also for residential purposes; and a number of handsome villas have been erected near the station of late years. The great attraction of the place is *Alderley Edge*, "a steep and beautifully curving cliff, of great elevation (650 ft.), and some 2 miles in length (reckoning to the out-of-sight portion that overlooks Bollington), with here and there great slants of green, rough, and projecting rocks, and innumerable fir-trees, glorious oaks and bushes, with paths traversing the whole, and introducing us to deep and sequestered glades that in autumn are covered with ferns."—*L. Grindon*.

From its somewhat isolated position, the views over the great Cheshire plain are exceedingly fine, embracing on the N. the downs of Bowdon, the woods of Dunham, the chimneys of Stockport, and the hills that border the valley of the Goyt. On the E. is Macclesfield, and the woods of Lyme, backed up by the blue ranges of Derbyshire. To the S. is Mow Cop and the salt country, and westward are Bucklow Hill, Delamere Forest, Beeston Rock and Castle, and the bold escarpment of Frodsham, while the foreground is beautifully filled in with church, hill, and ham-

let—a true picture of English country scenery. The prettiest way to the top of the Beacon (which was erected in 1799, for the purposes of signalling in case of foreign invasion) is to take the Congleton road for a short distance, and turn up by a lane to the l., emerging on the Edge near the “Wizard” Inn, a small roadside hostelry on the Macclesfield road. It owes its name to a country legend that a farmer, riding to Macclesfield to sell his horse, was compelled by a wizard, who lived on the Edge, to bring it back and stall it with a number of others in the interior of the hill.

Alderley Edge is, however, economically valuable as well as picturesque—for, situated in the angle between the Macclesfield road and the lane just mentioned are *Copper Mines*, which by an improved process of extraction have been made productive, although they had previously lain idle and unremunerative. The mines, which have been worked for a considerable distance into the interior, are situated geologically in the Lower Keuper Sandstones of the New Red or Triassic formation. A section shows as follows:—

| | |
|--|--------------------------------------|
| Red marl | } Lower Keuper sandstones, 500 feet. |
| Waterstones | |
| Freestones | |
| Copper-bearing sandstones | |
| Conglomerate | |
| Upper Red and mottled sandstones...Bunter. | |

The process by which the ore is extracted is to reduce it to powder, then treat it with hydrochloric acid and precipitate it with scrap iron. In 1866 these mines yielded 15,040 tons of ore, producing 189 tons of fine copper. Cobalt is also found here. The botanist as well as the geologist will find work to do on the Edge. *Schistoctega pennata* grows close to a waterfall in the woods below the Wizard, and *Orthodontium gracile*, a very rare fern, near the Holywell rock.—*L. Grindon*. The visitor from Manchester can vary his walk by

proceeding to *Prestbury Stat.* (Rte. 14) and returning by the Macclesfield line.

18½ m. *Wilmslow Stat.* A pretty village on the l. of the rly., which crosses the Bollin on a lofty viaduct. *Wilmslow ch.* is interesting, and contains portions of the date of the 12th centy. The pedestrian may enjoy a pleasant walk of 5½ miles from Wilmslow to *Mobberley Stat.* (Rte. 20) over *Lindow Common*, the southern side of which is marked by a row of 29 lime-trees. *Lycopodium inundatum* grows here; and lower down the river, at Cotterill Clough, *Hordeum sylvaticum* and *Daphne laureola*.

20 m. *Handforth Stat.* This is another favourite Cheshire rendezvous for holiday-makers, the attractions to whom are the walk to and the grounds of *Norcliffe Hall*, 2½ m. to the l. (H. R. Greig, Esq.), which are not only beautifully laid out, but are exceedingly well situated on the banks of the Bollin, near its confluence with the little River Dean. There is a neat country inn (the Old Ship) at *Styal*, 1½ m. from Handforth.

22½ m. *CHEADLE HULME JUNC.* with the Macclesfield and Congleton line, the direct route between Manchester and the Potteries. From hence it is nearly 1 m. on rt. to *Bramhall*, the ancient and interesting seat of Col. Davenport, the head of the Davenport family, the younger branch of which is seated at Capesthorpe (p. 83). It is more conveniently visited from *Bramhall Stat.* (Rte. 14), although there is a charming walk to it from Cheadle by following the course of the Bramhall brook from *Lady Bridge*, a little beyond the station.

The traveller soon begins to perceive that he is leaving the more sequestered and country districts of Cheshire, and approaching those of the manufactures. On rt. the main

line is joined by the Whaley Bridge and Buxton branch (Rte. 15), and a short tunnel is traversed to

25 m. STOCKPORT JUNC. (Rte. 18), the centre of a network of railways which radiate to Crewe, Macclesfield, Buxton, Manchester, and Ashton-under-Lyne. At a lower level the Manchester, Sheffield, and Lincolnshire from Godley Junc. passes through the town *en route* for Lymm, Warrington, and Liverpool. *Stockport* (*Hotels*: George, nearest the station; Buckley Arms) is so beautifully situated on the steep banks of the Mersey that not all the dirt of a large and populous manufacturing town, or the smoke that is so continuously poured out from the tall factory chimneys, can entirely spoil it. The *Mersey* here divides Cheshire and Lancashire, *apropos* of which Drayton, in speaking of Cheshire, calls the latter—

"Thy natural sister shee—and linkt unto thee so

That Lancashire along with Cheshire still doth goe."

The *Mersey*, which not many miles further bears on her bosom half the commerce of the world, is here but a narrow stream, although flowing in many places with considerable force. It is really the result of the confluence of the rivers Goyt and Tame, which unite their waters in the very centre of the town.

The deep ravine through which the river flows has necessitated the crossing of the railway to Manchester by an extraordinary lofty *Viaduct*, the view from which over the tiers of streets rising one above the other is exceedingly curious. It is 108 ft. in height, 1780 in length, and is supported by 22 semicircular arches, each of 63 ft. span. In addition to this monster bridge, the *Mersey* is crossed by three others, and the *Tame* by one. The old bridge over the former has a fine span of one arch, but it has been considerably surpassed by the Wellington Bridge, which has 11 arches.

Few towns can show a more ancient pedigree than Stockport, it having been a central point on the Roman road leading from Manchester (*Mancunium*) to Buxton (*Aquis*). It is said to have possessed a Norman castle, defended by Geoffrey de Constantine against Henry II., but it is singular that there is no mention of Stockport in *Domesday*. This castle afterwards became the property of the *Despensers*, and was held by the family of Stockport, or Stokeport, under them.

The Parliamentary troops held their quarters here for a time in 1645, and a century later it was visited by Prince Charles's army during its Derby campaign. An old custom which was in vogue at a later date than usual was the cucking-stool, which was also in use at Chester as a punishment for bad brewers. The cucking-stool, however, must not be confounded with the ducking-stool, which was confined to scolds.

The church, rebuilt in 1817, stands on the very highest part of the town, and is approached on all sides, as is the market-place, by very steep streets. It has a fine and prominent tower of red sandstone (*Runcorn stone*) with pinnacles and pierced battlements, nave with side aisles and chancel, and a beautiful Dec. E. window. The interior contains a piscina and 3 priests' stalls under cinquefoil arches. Within the pillars supporting the stalls is the figure of R. De Vernon, Rector of Stockport in 1334, habited in his ecclesiastical robes. There is also a monument to Sir G. Warren of Poynton, by *Westmacott*. In the churchyard is a gate leading to a small burial-place, with the legend of a skull and cross-bones, and the inscription, "*Mors Janua vite*." The precincts of the old rectory were invested by a peculiar court of jurisdiction held by the rectors.

The *Market-place* forms a covered

area of considerable dimensions, and on a market or fair day the visitor will see much character to interest and amuse him.

In Underbank, which was the line of a Roman road to Buxton, is an old *timbered house*, now used as a bank, but supposed originally to have been the town residence of the Ardernes of Harden. The free school was founded, in 1487, by the will of Sir Edmund Shae, or Shaw, brother of the Dr. Shaw, a native of Stockport, who preached at Paul's Cross respecting the illegitimacy of Edward IV.'s children.

Stockport contains a fair share of good modern buildings, amongst the most ambitious of which are the Commercial School and the *Teviotdale Stat.* of the Manchester, Sheffield, and Lincolnshire Railway (Rte. 18.). The *Vernon Park*, given by Lord Vernon, commands beautiful views over the Goyt and *Woodbank* (H. Marsland, Esq.). As may be seen at a glance, nearly all the population is employed either directly or indirectly in the cotton trade, and many of the factories are of very large size, such as Howard's Portwood mills, Marsland's, Side-bottom's, &c., but as the tourist will find the most important factories situated in Lancashire, it is needless to describe them minutely here. The *Roddish* mills, belonging to Messrs. Houldsworth and Co., half-way between Stockport and Manchester, are probably the most complete in England, and if the traveller can get an order to visit them, he will see the whole of the process on a very large scale. The early importance of Stockport commenced with the winding and throwing of silk; and it is said to have been the first place after Derby, where silk mills were erected on the Italian principle.

Rlys. to Manchester, 6 m.; Crewe, 25; Chesdale, 2; Altrincham, 9½; Lymm, 15½; Warrington, 21; Whaley Bridge, 17; Buxton, 26; Maccles-

field, 12; Ashton-under-Lyne, 7½; Hyde, 5 m.

Distances.—Marple, 4½ m.; Bramhall, 2½ m.; Romily, 3 m.

ROUTE 14.

FROM CREWE TO STOCKPORT BY HARECASTLE, CONGLETON, AND MACCLESFIELD.

This route takes the traveller through the most picturesque portion of Cheshire, viâ the North Staffordshire Bly. Quitting Crewe, it turns sharp to the l., and skirts the grounds of *Crewe Hall* (Rte. 13), of which a passing glimpse is obtained.

4½ m. *Radway Green Stat.* 1½ m. rt. is *Barthomley Ch.*, with nave, aisles, chancel, and tower. The door of the chancel is semicircular-headed with Norm. zigzag mouldings. In the ch. is a monumental slab to an ecclesiastic, probably Robert Fulleshurst, rector in 1475; also a mon. to Sir Robert Fulleshurst, with figures of armed men, and females under Gothic niches. Sir Robert was one of Lord Audley's squires at the battle of Poitiers. During the Civil War, Barthomley Ch. was the scene of a very disgraceful massacre, committed by the Royalists on 20 of the inhabitants who fled hither for shelter.

6½ m. *Aleager Stat.*, beyond which on l. is *Lawton Ch.*, which has a semicircular doorway on the S. side, with early Norman moulding; close to it is the *Hall* (J. Lawton, Esq.). On rt. is *Linley Wood* (Mrs. Marsh-Caldwell), commanding a charming view of the Welsh mountains. To the S. of this is *Talk-o'-th'-Hill*, a well-known mining locality, and from this place to Silverdale and Newcastle-under-Lyme the whole district is full of collieries and iron-works.

9 m. HARECASTLE JUNC., from whence the Macclesfield and the Potteries lines diverge, almost at the boundary of Staffordshire and Cheshire. The traveller, if he has perforce to wait for a train at Harecastle, can pleasantly pass the time by inspecting the canal works at the tunnel, which in its day was considered the *chef-d'œuvre* of Brindley, the great Staffordshire engineer. The *Grand Trunk Canal*, which connects the Trent and the Mersey, and in fact is the great waterway for all the English Midland Counties, was unquestionably one of the most important works ever executed, and had an astonishing effect in civilising the rough manners of the Pottery folks, and in opening up intercourse with the rest of the world. "The Harecastle tunnel, which is 2880 yards long, was constructed only 9 ft. wide and 12 ft. high. The most extensive ridge of country to be penetrated was at Harecastle, involving by far the most difficult works in the whole undertaking. This ridge is but a continuation of the high ground forming the backbone of England. The flat country of Cheshire, which looks almost as level as a bowling green when viewed from the high ground near New Chapel, seems to form a deep bay in the land, its innermost point being immediately under the village of Harecastle. That Brindley was correct in de-

termining to form his tunnel at this point has since been confirmed by the survey of Telford, who there constructed his parallel tunnel for the same canal, and still more recently by the engineers of the North Staffordshire Rly., who have also formed their railway tunnel nearly parallel with the line of both canals."—*Smiles*. So great did the traffic become on the canal that there was one perpetual block at this tunnel, which from its low and narrow size could only be traversed by the laborious process of "legging," viz. by the propulsion of the boatmen's legs against the roof of the tunnel; and as bargees were then, as now, not of the most patient or refined habits, terrible rows took place. It was determined, therefore, to make another tunnel, which Telford did, of a size sufficiently large to enable horses to work the traffic. The scene at the mouth of the tunnel, with Kidsgrove ch. at the back, is exceedingly wild and picturesque; in fact the whole of this part of the district is old world and quaint, and must have been charming before the establishment of iron-works and collieries. Close to the ch. is *Clough Hall* (Mrs. Kinnersley).

The Rly. to Macclesfield keeps due N. to 11 m. *Mow Cop Stat.* Immediately on rt. is the long narrow ridge known as Mow Cop, or Mole Cop (Moel Coppe), which rises to the height of 1100 ft., and commands an extensive and beautiful view over the plains of Cheshire and the high grounds of North Stafford. The boundary between the two counties is carried along its summit, which towards the N. is called *Congleton Edge*. Geologically it consists of millstone grit, and forms a sort of spur thrown out from the great central backbone of England. The beds are extensively quarried, the stone being of a pretty streaked appearance and very durable. Between

Congleton Edge and the town is *Congleton Moss*, where the botanist will find *Pilularia globulifera*. An excursion from Mow Cop Stat. to the summit of the hill, and afterwards to Congleton, visiting the old halls and churches in the neighbourhood, will give employment for a long summer's day—for this out of the way corner of Cheshire is singularly full of interest to the antiquary.

A little to the E., and between the Stat. and Church Lawton is the village of *Odd-Rode*, formerly celebrated "for its wood, its aerie for hawks, and its deer enclosures." *Rode Hall* (Randle Wilbraham, Esq.) has been the seat of the Wilbraham family for many generations.

Nearer to the stat. are the Halls of *Great Moreton* (G. H. Ackers, Esq.), and *Little Moreton* (Mrs. Moreton-Craigie.)

Great Moreton Hall was the seat of the family of that name, which terminated in the reign of Henry IV., with an heiress who married into the Norfolk family of Bellot. Lysons speaks of it as a fine timber-and-plaster building, with gables, of the early part of the 17th centy. An old cross, like the one at Lymm, stood in front of the house, but the former was removed in 1806, and the house has been modernised.

Little Moreton, commonly known as the Old Hall, has always been in possession of the Moreton family from a very early date, and is even now one of the finest specimens of the old-fashioned Cheshire timbered hall in existence, though only three sides are remaining. It is surrounded by a moat, and approached by a bridge on the S. side, entering the court by a fine old gateway, above which are sleeping-rooms, and at the top a very curious gallery, 68 ft. by 12 ft. Its sides are formed of bay windows, and the roof is of oak, of square compartments filled with quatrefoils. Over the W. window is a figure of Fortune resting on a

wheel, with the motto "Qui modo scandit corruet statim," and at the E. end is one with a globe, entitled "The Speare of Destiny, whose rule is knowledge." The dining-hall contains, over the mantelpiece, the arms of Elizabeth, upon which is founded a story that she once paid Moreton a visit, but there is no authority for this. Over the upper windows are the mottos:—

GOD IS AL IN AL THING

This windows whire made by William Moreton
in the Yeare of oure Lorde MDLIX
Richard Dale, Carpeder, made this window by
the Grac' of God.

The windows also contain the arms of Brereton and Moreton. The E. side, which is the oldest, contains the chapel, which is divided by a screen into two parts, of which the ante-chapel is the largest. Its whole length is only 30 ft., and the ceiling is very low. At the E. it is lighted by a painted window, and black-letter texts adorn the walls. On one of the window panes is cut the following verse:—

"Men can noe more knowe weoman's mynde
by teares
Than by her shaddow Judge what clothes
she weares."

"Within the moat, at the N.W. angle, is a circular mound, which probably once supported a tower of the earlier mansion—which, from this circumstance, we should infer was probably fortified—and at the S.E. angle is another circular mound of much larger dimensions, situated outside the present moat, but apparently included originally within trenches communicating with it."—*Ormerod*.

The neighbouring manor of Rode was formerly divided between the family of that name and the Moretons, which often gave rise to differences as to precedence and other matters between the two houses. An arbitration made by William Brereton, in the reign of Henry VIII., provided for the settlement of their

disputes by arranging that "whichever of the said gentlemen may depend in lands by title of inheritance, 10 mark, or above, more than the other, he shall have the pre-eminence of sitting in the church and in going in procession, and with all other like cases in that behalf."

From Moreton Hall it is only 3 m. to Congleton.

14 m. CONGLETON JUNC. Here the Stoke-upon-Trent line, viâ Biddulph, falls in. *Congleton*, called *Cogleton* in Domesday Book (*Inn*: Swan, an old timbered house; Bull), (Rte. 21), is a pleasant, thriving little town, situated on the Dane, and near the foot of Congleton Edge and the adjoining Cloud Hill. It boasts of considerable antiquity, having had charters granted it by Henry de Lacy, Henry VIII., and James I. The mayor and town clerk used to have the power of taking recognisance of debts and issuing executions thereon—a power conferred on them by the Statute of Acton Burnell. One of these mayors, in 1637, was John Bradshaw, President of the Court that tried Charles I., he having originally been apprenticed to an attorney in the town. Congleton was a great sufferer by the plague in the 17th centy. The first silk mill was established here in 1752, by a Mr. John Clayton, of Stockport, and the trade has ever since taken root, although at one time the place was principally celebrated for the manufacture of gloves and tag leather laces, known as Congleton Points. There are still some old timbered houses to be seen, but the ancient chapel which formerly stood near the bridge has been superseded by a newer one. *St. Peter's Ch.* is very plain, but *St. James's* built in 1848, is a handsome ch. of trans. from E. Eng. to Dec. style. It contains a stained glass window by *Wailles*. The *Town Hall* is a very handsome building from designs by *Godwin*.

The whole of the neighbourhood is replete with picturesque country and interesting churches and halls, and the visitor will find plenty of excursions by rail or on foot, such as to Astbury ch., 2 m.; Little Moreton Hall, 3½ m.; Biddulph Hall and gardens, 3 m.; Rudyard Reservoir, 6 m.; Mow Cop, 3 m. In the neighbourhood are *West House* (T. Pearson, Esq.) and *Daisy Bank* (E. Williamson, Esq.).

Rlys. to Stoke-upon-Trent, 14 m.; Crewe, 14 m.; Macclesfield, 8 m.

2 m. to the S. is *Astbury*, the mother ch. of Congleton, and one of the finest country churches in Cheshire. The pariah was the seat of the *Lathoms*, of Astbury, descended from Robert de Lathom, the founder of Burscough Abbey in Edward II.'s time. The ch. has a nave, chancel, side aisles of equal length with the chancel, clerestory, a W. porch of the same height as the centre aisle of the nave, a S. porch, and a tower with a lofty spire at the N.W. angle. Notice the gurgoyles all round the ch., which are exceedingly grotesque. The nave is separated from the aisles by five pointed arches on each side, springing from clustered pillars of Mow Cop millstone grit. There are two chapels at the end of the aisles. The one on the N. belongs to the proprietors of Odd-Rode, and is richly ornamented with painted glass. There are also a few fragments of the original stained glass in some of the aisle windows. The aisles are lighted by pointed windows with quatrefoils. The other windows are Perp. The E. window is a handsome 7-light window with stained glass, in memory of the Rev. *Offley Crewe*, a former vicar. The chancel is separated from the nave by a fine carved oak screen, and there are also a rood-loft and some carved oak stalls. On the N. of the nave is a nearly obliterated fresco, the only one left of several that formerly adorned the

walls. The roof, too, is of carved oak, decorated with foliage, and of the date 1701. The date of the ch. generally is the early part of the 17th centy. The monuments are very interesting—especially a recumbent female figure, in voluminous robes, belonging to the Egertons of Oulton, and a recumbent knight of the Davenport family. There are others to Sir William Moreton, Recorder of London, 1763, the Wilbrahams of Rode, the Bellots of Moreton (17th centy.), and the Shakerleys of Somerford. But the most curious are in the ch.-yd., which contains 4 recumbent figures in red sandstone, much decayed. The one on the N. is an ecclesiastic, on the S. is an armed knight, and the two middle ones are those of a knight and his lady, reposing under an arch with crocketed pinnacles. This last is supposed to be Randolph Brereton and his wife Ada, who was a daughter of Richard, Earl of Huntingdon.

2 m. to the N. of Congleton is *Eaton Hall*, the seat of J. C. Antrobus, Esq., a modern Elizabethan building, commanding beautiful views of the Staffordshire hills.

Quitting Congleton Stat., there is a fine view at the junction of the two railways, of Congleton Edge and *Cloud End*, a very striking feature in the landscape of this district.

15 m. l. *Buglaunton Hall* (S. Pearson, Esq.), was the ancient seat of the Touchets, of whom Sir John Touchet, in the reign of Edward III., was a distinguished warrior at the siege of Rheims. He was killed in the engagement with the Spanish fleet at Rochelle. A little further on is *Crossley*, a farmhouse which gave a name to the family of Crossleigh as far back as King John.

The Dane is here crossed by a fine viaduct of brick, and a JUNCTION soon formed with the Leek and Uttoxeter Branch at NORTHRODE. [From this point the border separating Cheshire and Staffordshire, which

has kept pretty close to the line all the way from Harecastle, now trends to the rt., extending to within 3 or 4 m. of Buxton. *Axe Edge* is really the eastern boundary, and the two rivers Dane and Goyt, which rise within a few yards of each other, but which flow respectively N. and S., embrace in their course, the one to Congleton, the other to New Mills, a very large extent of country utterly out of the world, unvisited and almost unknown except by the scattered dwellers on its moorlands and in its cloughs. Although containing no one object worthy of pilgrimage, the whole district is nevertheless exceedingly wild, picturesque, and singular, and the pedestrian who is anxious to exchange beaten tracks and civilised life for moorland paths and rough country character, will be amply repaid. The district may be pretty well explored in a walk from North Rode Stat. to Buxton (between 15 and 16 m.), returning from Buxton to Macclesfield by the "Cat and Fiddle," and by this means the visitor will obtain the scenery and characteristics of N. and S.

$\frac{1}{2}$ m. from the stat. the road falls into the high-road between Congleton and Buxton, which again is crossed by the Macclesfield and Leek road, Cloud End being a conspicuous feature in the S. $1\frac{1}{2}$ m. the road skirts the N. side of *Bosley Reservoir*, and takes to the hills, descending occasionally steep little valleys locally known as "cloughs." Leaving the eminence of *Bosley Minn* to the rt., a short cut comes in from Macclesfield at Clulow Cross. To the rt., $1\frac{1}{2}$ m., is *Wincle*, a village so retired that it is recorded in Bishop Gastrell's notes that the inhabitants paid what they pleased for preaching, "when there is any, but there has been none for half a year past, 1717." The monks of Combermere Abbey had a grange here. Further on (l.) is *Shutting's Low*, one of the principal hills of the district, with cha-

racteristic conical summit. It is composed of millstone grit, although the limestone crops out beneath, and it is the centre of a number of anticlinal lines which have caused great disturbance to the strata in the neighbourhood. At Hallgreaves turnpike-gate take the road to the l. and commence the ascent of the moors that form the western slopes of *Axe Edge*, over which the traveller must pass on his way to Buxton. *Axe Edge* (1750 ft.) is one of the highest hills in Derbyshire (although the boundary-line passes close on its western side), and is still in its primitive condition of heather, moss, and bilberry, affording a good cover for the grouse.

The view from the summit is very remarkable, and embraces a large extent of the high table districts of Derbyshire and Cheshire, in the direction of Macclesfield. Four rivers have their fountain-heads in *Axe Edge*, viz. the Dove and the Wye, flowing eastward, and the Dane and Goyt, towards the Irish Sea. The northern extremity of the Edge is called *Ladman's Low*, and round it the road winds sharply and steeply to

14 m. *Buxton* (*Hotels*: Railway, Royal, St. Ann's, &c.)—*Handbook for Derbyshire.*

From Buxton the return to Macclesfield is close upon 12 m. Retrace the road over *Axe Edge*, and on the W. side of it take the road to rt., overlooking *Goyt's Clough*, the wild and picturesque dell through which the infant Goyt flows—

"From hence he getteth Goyte down from his Peakish springs"—

to 5 m. the *Cat and Fiddle*, a well-known moorland inn, which has afforded welcome shelter to many a weather-beaten pedestrian. From thence the road winds round the Tors and over the high grounds of the Macclesfield Forest, that wild bit of country over

which, in early days, the Davenport family had jurisdiction as forester magistrates, whose duty it was to scour the district at intervals, and capture and then execute the banditti who infested it (Rte. 13).

In later times, the district was inhabited by a different sort of robbers, who depended for their livelihood a good deal upon the peculiar trade of Macclesfield. Dr. Aiken thus relates:—"In the wild country between Buxton, Leek, and Macclesfield, lived a set of pedestrian chapmen, who hawked about buttons from Macclesfield, ribbons made at Leek, and handkerchiefs with small wares from Manchester. These pedlars were known on the roads they travelled by the appellation of *Flashmen*, and frequented farmhouses and fairs, having a sort of slang or cant dialect. At first they paid ready-money for their goods till they acquired credit, which they were sure to extend till there was no more to be had, when they dropped their connexions without paying, and found new ones. They long went on thus, enclosing the common where they dwelt, for a trifling payment, and building cottages, till they began to have farms, which they improved from the gains of their credit, without troubling themselves about payment, since no bailiff for a long time attempted to serve a writ there. At length, a resolute officer, a native of the district, ventured to arrest several of them, when, their credit being destroyed, they changed the wandering life of pedlars for the settled care of their farms; but, as these were held by no leases, they were left at the mercy of the lords of the soil, the Harpur family, who made them pay for their impositions on others. Another set of pedestrians was called *Broken Cross Gang*, from a place of that name between Macclesfield and Congleton. These associated with *Flashmen* at fairs, playing with thimbles and buttons, like jugglers

with cups and balls, and enticing the people to lose their money by gambling; but they at length took to the kindred trades of robbing and picking pockets, till at last the gang was broken up by the hands of justice." When the pedestrian reaches a farmhouse, called the Lache, about 2½ m. from the Cat and Fiddle, he may plunge into the hollow under Shutling's Low, by a lane on the rt., and then ascend the hill to *Forest Chapel*. Follow the lane to Macclesfield past the reservoirs formed by the Bollin, and through the village of *Langley*. It is a most charming bit of country, full of varied and changing views. From the Lache to Macclesfield is about 6 m. *Sutton Hall* at St. James (2 m. from Macclesfield) was an old residence of the Earl of Fauconberg, whose daughter married the Duke of Norfolk, and subsequently the Earl of Lucan. It was formerly possessed by Sir Richard Sutton, Governor of the Inner Temple, who was knighted by Henry VIII. License to crenellate was previously given by Henry IV. to the abbots of St. Werburg, Chester. *Cophurst*, in this neighbourhood, was the ancient property of the Hollinsheds, whose male line terminated in Ralph (or Raphael) Holinshed, the chronicler.

3 m. to the N.W. of North Rode Stat. is *Gawsworth*, a charming little old-fashioned village, the ch. of which contains some remains of mural paintings. The Hall, which is equally old-fashioned, belongs to the Earl of Harrington.

From North Rode, the rly., leaving Gawsworth to the l., traverses a dreary bog, known as *Dane's Moss*, which has been the locale of a series of experiments as to the feasibility of compressing peat, so as to make it practicable both in material and price, instead of coal.

22 m. *Macclesfield* (*Inn*: Macclesfield Arms), though not so prosperous

as it was, in consequence of the long depressed state of the silk-trade, is nevertheless a place of great business and importance, and the number of factories that meet the eye sufficiently betokens the large population that inhabits it. Although of considerable size, it is rather a straggling and irregularly built town on the banks of the little river Bollin, and contains few good streets, many of them being very steep. It originally possessed three gates, viz., the Chester Gate, Jordan Gate, and Wall Gate. It was first incorporated by charter, granted in 1261 by the Earl of Chester, son of Henry III., by which the burgesses were compelled to grind and bake at the King's mill and oven, paying a toll of one shilling each. That Macclesfield was a loyal town is shown by a curious document, preserved in the Corporation records, praying Henry VII. that the town might not lose its charter in consequence of not being able to make up the prescribed number of aldermen, from the heavy slaughter of their townsmen at Boeworth Field. During the Civil Wars, Macclesfield was besieged and taken by the Parliamentary army under Sir Wm. Brereton, who held the town in his turn against Sir Thomas Acton, who battered the spire of St. Michael's with his cannon. In 1745 the young Chevalier slept here when he passed through *en route* for Derby, with his army of 5000 men.

St. Michael's Church (Prestbury being the parish ch.) is a fine building, founded in 1278 by Edward I. and his Queen Eleanor, but modernised and spoilt in the middle of the last centy. It contains a stained glass E. window and some altar tombs, one of which has recumbent figures of a knight and lady, in memory of Sir John Savage and his wife Catherine. Another is a knight in plate armour. There is also one of William Legh, 1630. The most interesting portion of the ch. is a

chapel on the S. side belonging to the Leghs of Lyme. It contains a brass, with the following inscription;—

"Here lyeth the body of Perkin a Legh
That for King Richard the death did die;
Betray'd for righteounesse;
And the bones of Sir Peers his sone,
That with King Henrie the fift did wonne
In Paris."

Adjoining the ch., but not communicating with it, is the Rivers Chapel, entered by a tower of three stages, with a fine old gateway ornamented with shields and armorial bearings. Over it is an oriel window, decorated with the arms of England, the see of York, and the Savage family. Inside are the monuments of the latter family, conspicuous amongst which is the figure of Thomas Savage, Earl Rivers, in a voluminous robe and wig. Notice, also, a *brass*, with Elizabeth Legh and her six children seeking indulgence from the Pope, with the inscription, "The p'don for saying of v. paternost', v. aves, and a cred, is xxvi. thousand yeres and xxvi. days of pardon." *Christ Church*, built in the last centy., contains some fine memorial windows to the founder, Mr. Roe, and others by *Wailles* and *Bell*; also a monument, by *Bacon*, to Mr. Roe, who built the first silk-mill in Macclesfield. The organ is said to have been used by Handel, and the pulpit by John Wesley.

In Chester Gate is *Bate Hall*, now a modern public-house, but once a portion of the old residence of Lord Courtown.

Macclesfield contains some interesting modern buildings, viz., the *Roman Catholic Chapel*, in the Chester-road, a fine E. Eng. building, with some good sculpture and stained glass by *Wailles* and *Hardman*. The *Grammar School* is on high ground to the N. of the town, and forms a picturesque group of irregular E. Eng. outline. It was founded in 1502 by Sir J. Percival,

Lord Mayor of London, and a native of Macclesfield, and re-endowed by Edward VI. The seal of the Grammar School is peculiar, representing a venerable pedagogue holding a book and a birch rod. Near it is the new *Infirmiry*. The *Park*, on the Prestbury-road, is charmingly laid out with all the appliances for amusement, and has lovely views looking towards the hills. Adjoining it is the *Cemetery*, equally pretty and attractive. The *County Lunatic Asylum* is in process of building near this.

Macclesfield formerly held its reputation by the manufacture of its buttons, and in order that the trade should be protected to the utmost extent an Act was passed, declaring it illegal to wear button-moulds covered with the same stuff as the garment. Like most of these monopolies, the Act was soon evaded by the use of metal and horn buttons; so that the Macclesfield traders took up the more legitimate manufacture of silk in all its various forms. At present there are 30 silk manufacturers and 34 silk throwsters in Macclesfield and the neighbourhood.

The town is well provided with churches and schools, and it is mentioned that at the visit of the Factory Commissioners, it was found that 96 per cent. of the children could read.

Excursions can be made to Alderley, 5 m.; Prestbury, 2; Bramhall, 9; Gawsworth, 3½; Congleton, 8; Buxton 12 m.

In the close neighbourhood of the town are *Park House*, *Hindafield House* (J. Brocklehurst, Esq.), *Titherington House*, the *Fence* (T. Brocklehurst, Esq.), and *Upton Hall*.

[Should the traveller wish to join the Midland line he can do so by a branch which connects Macclesfield with Woodley Junc., passing through a very picturesque country.

2½ m. *Bollington Stat.* is finely placed at the foot of a hill called Northern Nancy, on which there is a look out summer-house. There are several cotton mills in the village. 4 m. to the E., in the mountain district, is the little moorland village of *Jenkin Chapel* and *Saltersford Hall*, now a farmhouse. It still gives the title of Baron Saltersford to the Earl of Courtown.

1 m. to the N. is *Pott Shrigley Hall* (Rev. Dr. Lowther), formerly the seat of the Downes, one of the eight subordinate Foresters of Macclesfield Forest. Shrigley Chapel is a fine old Gothic building, and more like a collegiate chapel than a country church. The rly. then skirts the broken and varied scenery of *Lyme Park* (Rte. 15), and soon crosses the Buxton and Stockport (L.N.W.) Rly.

5½ m. *High Lane Stat., Wyberleigh.* Near this is supposed to have been the birthplace of John Bradshaw, the regicide, 1602.

7½ m. *Rose Hill*, is the stat. for Marple, and the line soon runs parallel with the Midland Rly. from Buxton, which it joins at **WOODLEY JUNC.**]

Emerging from the tunnel at the N. end of Macclesfield, the rly. leaves Titherington on rt., and arrives at

24 m. *Presbury Stat.* The ch. (the parish ch. of Macclesfield) is of different styles, from as early as 1220 to 1741. The parish records contain some curious extracts as to the collection of "Church-ley" or "cerage" money ("cerge" in Anglo-Norman meaning wax-candle). In 1736 payment was made to a man "for tearing round the ch. to frighten the jackdaws," and between 1709 and 1713, the churchwardens paid for the killing of 81 foxes and 1964 hedgehogs.

It is a charming walk of over 4 m. to Alderley Stat. (Rte. 13), by *Mottram St. Andrew's Common*. To the

N. of it is *Mottram Hall* (Rev. H. Wright), and to the S. is *Hareshill* (W. T. Hibbert, Esq.), immediately under Alderley Edge.

26 m. *Adlington Stat.* On l. is *Adlington Hall* (C. R. B. Legh, Esq.), a fine old quadrangular house, of which a portion is still of timber and plaster, while the S. front is of brick, with wings, and a portion of Run-corn stone. The great hall dates from the time of Elizabeth.

Adlington was garrisoned on the side of the King in the Civil War; but the brave holders were obliged to yield after a fortnight's siege, obtaining fair terms of surrender for "a younger son of Mr. Legh, and 150 soldiers had all fair quarter and leave to depart, leaving 700 arms and 15 barrels of powder." — *Burghall's Diary.*

The manor of Adlington belonged to the family of De Corona, and descended to the Leghs through the Baguleys. But within the last century direct issue has more than once failed, and the estate has passed to other relations, who have taken the name of Legh.

27½ m. *Poynton Stat. Poynton Hall* is the seat of Lord Vernon, who obtained it by marriage with an heiress of the Warren family, in whose possession it had been for generations. The old Hall, erected in the reign of Edward VI. by Sir Edward Warren, was pulled down, and the present house erected by Sir George Warren in the 17th centy. The park is of great extent, and, from its undulating character, possesses fine views. The northern part of the property is bounded by the Buxton and Stockport Rly., which has a stat. at *Hazlegrove* (Rte. 15).

29½ m. *Bramhall Stat.* 1 m. to the N., placed on rising ground above two dells, one of which is the valley of the Bollin, is *Bramhall Hall*, the unique mansion of the Davenport

family, who have resided here since the days of Edward III. There is no finer specimen of the antique "black and white" timber-and-plaster architecture in all the county, and probably not in England. It was once a quadrangle in form, but the W. side was taken down by a former owner. Over the entrance gate is seen the armorial crest of the Davenports, a felon's head, with a halter round his neck, in allusion to the prerogative of the family as Serjeant Foresters (see *Capesthorne*, Rte. 13). The principal object of interest in the interior of Bramhall is the *Great Hall*, wainscoted with oak, and containing the family arms carved over the mantelpiece, together with a number of heads in relief. There are also some suits of armour and relics of the Civil War.

A spiral oak staircase leads to the *Drawing-room*, also wainscoted. There are here a number of armorial coats and the arms of Queen Elizabeth, who is said to have presented the mantelpiece to the family. The *Plaster room* contains a floor of that material (1599), a large piece of tapestry worked by Dame Dorothy Davenport (17th centy.), and an elaborately carved cradle. The *Paradise room* is so called from its being adorned by some of Dame Dorothy's tapestry representing the history of the Fall. The inscription round the fringe is as follows:—

"Feare God and sleepe in peace, that thou in Chryste mayeste reste, To passe there dayes of sinne and rayne with Him in blisse, where angels do remayne, And blesse and prayse His name with songs of joy and hapinesse, And live with Him for ever. Therefore, O Lord, in thee is my full hope and trust, that thou wilt me defend from sin, the worlde and divile, who goeth about to catch poor sinners in their snare and bringe them to that place where greef and sorrows are. So now I end my lynes and worke that hath beene longe to them that doe them reade, in hope they will be pleased by me,
DOROTHY DAVENPORT, 1634."

The *Dining-hall* is a fine oak room on the S. side, divided into 6 bays or compartments by massive timbers.

Notice the maple dining-table, and the carved oak sideboard. The *chapel* is lighted by a beautiful Gothic window, containing stained glass with armorial bearings. In the centre is a painting of the Crucifixion. The Commandments are inscribed in Black Letter, together with quotations from the Early Fathers. Notice the altar, which is a slab of polished mountain limestone filled with casts of fossils. During the Civil War, Bramhall suffered more than most of the Cheshire mansions, and Peter Davenport, the then owner, has left behind him a pathetic account of the robberies and losses that he sustained at the hands of both parties. Royalists and Republicans were equally bad; and what one spared, the other took. "On New Year's Day, 1643, Capt. Sankey (Parliamentary), with 2 or 3 troopers, came to Bramhall, and went into my stable and took out all my horses, above 20 in all, and afterwards searched my house for arms again, and took my fowling piece, stocking piece, and drum, with divers other things. Next day, after they were gone, came Prince Rupert his army, by whom I lost better than a hundred pounds in linen and other goods, besides the rifling and pulling to pieces of my house. By whom and my Lord George's army, I lost 8 horses, and they ate me threescore bushels of oats."

Notwithstanding these repeated losses, poor Peter Davenport was informed against for delinquency before the Committee for sequestration, and after having undergone the indignity of having an inventory made of his furniture, was obliged to appear before the Commissioners at Stockport, and pay a composition of 500*l.* "to bring my own peace and rather than suffer myself and my estate to fall into the hands of them of whose unjust proceedings I have already sufficient tryall."

1½ m. beyond Bramhall Stat. the

rly. joins the main line from Crewe to Manchester at CHEADLE HULME JUNC., and the traveller soon reaches Stockport (Rte. 13).

ROUTE 15.

FROM BUXTON TO STOCKPORT BY
WHALEY BRIDGE AND DISLEY.

The greater portion of this line is in Derbyshire, entering the county of Cheshire at *Whaley Bridge* Stat., a most picturesque village, in which the first signs of the manufacturing districts impart a pleasant and lifelike aspect to the natural wildness of the hills. It is situated on the steep banks of the Goyt, and is the terminus of the High Peak Rly. after its devious course over the moorlands of Derbyshire. On the opposite bank of the river is the *Boosdych*, evidently derived from the Roman "Rhedagua" which served the purpose of a race-course. "It is an artificially formed valley, averaging in width 40 paces, and 1300 paces in length. It is in a great measure cut out of the side of a hill, to a depth of from 10 to 30 ft., but where it is most so, it is enclosed on both sides with banks of earth."

It is a charming walk from Whaley Bridge up the river as far as Goyt Bridge, $4\frac{1}{2}$ m., passing the ch. and wooded village of *Taxal*. Some curious documents are in existence respecting this portion of Maccles-

[*Shropshire, &c*]

field Forest, which was in the possession of the family of Downes, who held rather stringent rights. The last Reginald Downes boasted "that he could bring all Taxall to his court, to be kept in his *Compass* window, commonly called by the name of his bay window." He held his land by a blast of his horn on Midsummer Day and the payment of a peppercorn rent. The family had liberty to try, hang, and draw offenders, and a spot near Overton is still called the Gallows Yard, where this privilege was carried out. The ch. is a handsome 3 aisled building with chancel and transept, and contains a monument to Michael Heatheote, gentleman of the pantry to George II.

Erwood Hall (S. Grimshaw, Esq.).

As the rly. descends the Goyt, additions to the natural features of the district appear in the shape of gins and steam engines, denoting the arrival at the coal formation.

A pretty valley, sprinkled with trees, and enlivened by the canal and the river flowing below, brings us to

$2\frac{1}{2}$ m. *New Mills* Stat., a straggling but thickly populated village on the Derbyshire bank. It is a modern place, but has a considerable trade in cotton spinning and calico printing. *New Mills* was originally called *Bowden Middle Call*, and is in reality a collection of hamlets grouped together for parochial purposes.

4 m. *Disley* Stat. (*Inn*: Ram's Head). The ch., situated on the hill, is worth a visit. It is of the date of the 15th centy., and contains a fine illuminated ceiling of stars on a blue ground, and some stained glass. The E. window has scenes from the life of our Saviour, and was brought from Italy by one of the Leghs of Lyme. About $\frac{3}{4}$ m. from the station is the entrance to *Lyme Park* (W. H. Legh, Esq.), one of the most beautiful and picturesque demesnes in the whole county. Lyme has been in the

possession of the Leghs for generations since the time of Richard II., when a grant of the lands of Lyme Handley was made to Sir Piers Legh, 3rd husband of Margaret, widow of Sir Thomas Danyers. Sir Piers, however, only lived two years afterwards, being beheaded at Chester in 1399 by the Duke of Lancaster. His son, Sir Peter Legh, was killed at Agincourt.

The mansion is a large quadrangular building of different dates, the north front being of the time of Henry VII. and Elizabeth. Over the entrance porch are the armorial bearings of the family, above which is a dial and open pediment, embracing a statue of Minerva. This, together with the somewhat heavy Italian casing, is the work of Giacomo Leoni in 1726. The hall is ornamented with the arms of Sir Perkin Legh, which he wore at the battle of Crecy, where he was knighted for his valour by Edward III. The staircase is very striking, and the long gallery curious. The great drawing-room is superb, and has been unaltered since the age of Elizabeth, except the windows; but one orial is perfect, and filled with stained glass containing the quarterings of the Leghs. It is wainscoted, and has a richly ornamented roof; below it is the chapel. There is some fine wood carving by Gibbons. Another apartment, called the Stag Parlour, has a chimney-piece richly sculptured with armorial bearings, and 12 compartments below the cornice decorated with incidents in relief, of stag hunting. "In the front of the house is represented the custom, formerly observed here about Midsummer, of driving the deer round the park and collecting them in a body before the house, after which they were made to swim the water."—*Burke*. A bedstead is shown as the very one in which the Black Prince slept during a visit to Lyme. Be this as it may, the bed is

old and curious, with a canopy of carved black wood, and stands in a room still reported to be haunted. There are portraits of Lord Ashburnham by *Vandyck*, of the Duke of Buckingham, of Charles I. with his hat on, and of Lady Derby (*La Tremouille*) and her husband. There are also some antique marbles brought by the late Mr. Legh from Athens and Egypt. The house is shown only in the absence of the family.

In the *Park*, a great portion of which is left in all the uncontrolled wildness of nature, are preserved some of the celebrated and rare *wild white cattle*, which have existed here for many centuries, and are said to be indigenous to the district. The untrodden thickets and bracken wastes are the favourite resort of the red deer. There is also a splendid avenue of limes, and some ancient oaks. On the top of a hill over 800 ft. high, rises a square tower, called "the Cage," probably an old hunting lodge. Of the custom of assembling the red deer and driving them through the water "there is a large print by Vivares, after a painting by T. Smith, representing Lyme Park during the performance of the annual ceremony, with the great vale of Cheshire and Lancashire as far as the Rivington Hills in the distance; and in the foreground the great body of the deer passing through the pool, the last just entering it, and the old stags emerging on the opposite bank, two of which are contending with their fore feet, the horns at that season being too tender to combat with; this act of 'driving the deer' like a herd of ordinary cattle is stated on a monument in Disley to have been first perfected by Joseph Watson, who died in 1753, at the age of 104, having been park-keeper at Lyme more than 64 years. The custom, however, does not appear to have been peculiar to Lyme, as Dr. Whitaker observes in his account of Townley, the seat of

a collateral line of Legh, in the county of Lancaster. It is said of this Joseph Watson that he once undertook, at the bidding of his master, to drive twelve brace of stags to Windsor Forest for a wager of 500 guineas, which he performed accordingly. This was in the reign of Queen Anne."—*Shirley*.

Soon after quitting Disley, the rly. leaves *Poynton Park* (Lord Vernon) to the l. (Rte. 14), and stops at 7½ m. *Hazlegrove Stat.* This village, which is principally employed in silk weaving, formerly rejoiced in the euphonious name of *Bullocksmyth*. The *parish ch.* of *Norbury* is seen near the station.

1½ m. rt. is *Offerton*, now a farmhouse, but once the seat of the family of *Wynnington*.

10 m. STOCKPORT JUNC.

ROUTE 16.

FROM BUXTON TO MANCHESTER BY
NEW MILLS, HYDE, AND GUIDE BRIDGE.

This route is performed by the Midland Railway between Buxton and Woodley Junc., where it falls into the system of the Manchester, Sheffield, and Lincolnshire Company. From *Chapel-en-le-Frith* it runs nearly parallel with the London and North-Western line (Rte. 15), although on the Derbyshire side of the

Goyt, and it does not enter Cheshire till it reaches

19½ m. *Marple Stat.*, where the Goyt is crossed by a fine viaduct 135 feet in height. Here, too, the Peak Forest Canal is carried over an aqueduct of 3 arches, each of 60 ft. span, and 97 ft. high, but its level is soon reduced by a series of 13 locks. Marple is an exceedingly picturesque village, the churchyard commanding a fine view. It was anciently called *Meerpol*, probably from the expansion of the Goyt in the valley beneath. Adjoining it are some almshouses, built by Mrs. Bridge in 1853. 1½ m. to the N., between Marple and Chadkirk, is *Marple Hall*, the seat of T. B. Isherwood, Esq., and one of the most beautiful Elizabethan houses in the county. For long, Marple was the property of the Vernons of the Peak and the builders of Haddon Hall, one of whose co-heiresses brought it by marriage into the Stanley family, the other marrying into that of Manners. In 1606 Sir E. Stanley conveyed the hall to the Bradshaws of Bradshaw Hall, a respectable yeoman family, in whose possession it remained until the marriage of Mary Bradshaw into the Isherwoods. Here (or at Wybersley, near Disley) was born in 1602 John Bradshaw, the famous Regicide Judge who presided at the trial of Charles I. His will is preserved here, containing among other bequests one of 10*l.* to his kinsman, John Milton.

The house, of Elizabethan date, is built in the form of a letter E, after the complimentary fashion of that age. The entrance hall is low, with a massive oak roof, and is lighted by a long window with stained glass. The date 1666 is carved with the arms of the family over the fireplace. A bedroom is shown in which Judge Bradshaw is said to have been born, although other accounts assert that this event took place at Wybersley,

now a farmhouse in the neighbourhood. At all events his bed is here, and is of beautiful carved oak, with the inscription, "Fear God and not gould. He that loves not mercy, of mercy shall miss. But he shall have mercy that merciful is." There is also some good tapestry, and the armour worn by the Judge. The library and drawing-room are both interesting and old-fashioned, and contain much carved oak furniture and many family portraits, some of which came from Harden Hall, near Stockport, the old residence of the Alvanley family. "The extensive stables erected during the Commonwealth are supposed to have been built for the accommodation of the Roundheads by Mr. Henry Bradshaw, an adherent of Cromwell, and brother of the regicide."

Between Marple and 2½ m. *Romily Stat.*, the line crosses the Goyt once more, and there is a beautiful view on rt. at the junction of the *Etherow* with the former river. Near *Romily*, which is dependent for the most part on the manufacture of felt hats, is *Chadkirk*, the white little *ch.* of which is devoted to St. Chad, who in the 7th centy. was sent by St. Colomb to Christianise the Lancashire district. Rochdale and Saddleworth *chs.* are both dedicated to him, and tradition asserts that St. Chad resided here. A well is still called after him, and a path along the hillside is named the *Priest's Walk*.

1½ m. to the rt. of *Romily* is *Compstall*, situated on the banks of the *Etherow*, a pretty village, containing printworks and a cotton factory, belonging to Messrs. Andrew. One of the water-wheels here is noted for its size, having a diameter of 17 yds. *Compstall* is also locally celebrated for its tea gardens, which attract many holiday folk.

The rly. now crosses the watershed that separates the valleys of the *Tame* and the *Goyt*, having on rt.

the long ridge of *Werneth Low*, a conspicuous hill, which rises to the height of 821 ft.

22½ m. *WOODLEY JUNC.*, where the Manchester, Sheffield, and Lincolnshire branch for Stockport to the main line at Godley Junc. is given off, together with a line to Bollington and Macclesfield (Rte. 14). We now ascend the valley of the *Tame*, on the S. bank of which, about 1½ m. from Woodley, is *Harden Hall*, formerly the country residence of the Arderne, and subsequently of the Alvanleys. It is a three-storied building of Elizabethan date, a tall pile of grey stone, behind which is a turret containing a circular staircase, while at the sides are wings terminating in gables having long bay windows. The entrance gate is in the N. front. In the S. is a central gable with a coat of armorial bearings. The great hall is wainscoted, and lighted by mullioned and transomed windows, and was once decorated with paintings, now decayed. In addition to its natural defensive situation, Harden was protected by a moat, which is now dry.

23½ m. *Hyde Stat.* At the beginning of the present centy., a solitary chapel was the only representative of the populous township that now constitutes Hyde, and which has been created solely by the cotton trade. Hyde Hall contains a small portion of the old house in the interior.

The *ch.* is of late Perp. date and has a good stained glass E. window (a memorial of the Sidebotham family), by *Edmondson*. It is of 5 lights, divided into 10 spaces, occupied by subjects in our Saviour's life.

24½ m. *HYDE JUNC.* with the main line of the Manchester, Sheffield, and Lincolnshire Railway. The traveller will perceive that he has left the picturesque and wooded vales of the river valleys for higher ground, which, if not so pretty as landscape, are equally characteristic of the

country, and of its peculiar manufactures. Cotton factories are everywhere seen, and the open moorland occasionally allows views of distant towns like Ashton or Staleybridge.

Between Hyde Junc. and Guide-bridge, on l., is *Dukinfield Hall*, an old half-timbered house, with gables and ridge posts. This was once the seat of the Dukinfield family, of whom was Col. Dukinfield, a very active officer on the Parliamentary side, who was one of the members of the Court that tried the Earl of Derby. In 1659, however, he had some differences with the Parliament, respecting a complaint made by the officers and soldiers of the inadequacy of the rewards given to them for suppressing the rebellion. The dispute was soon settled; but in the mean time the Speaker, in his attempt to pass through a crowd of the mal-contented, suffered the indignity of being stopped and sent back by Dukinfield. This gave rise to a doggerel rhyme, which became popular—

"Duckenfield (steel was never so true
And as wise as ever was Toby)
Lay in the purlieu,
The cockpit avenue,
To hinder the Speaker's go by."

"Amidst the ruined walls of the old family chapel is the tomb of a Dukinfield, who gained his honours in the wars of the Crusaders. That dilapidated tomb of the Crusader and the ivy-covered walls of the venerable chapel are the oldest architectural memorials which can now be identified of English Congregationalism. In that chapel, encouraged by Col. Dukinfield, the Rev. Samuel Eaton gathered the first Congregational Ch. in the North of England."—*Halley*.

The village of *Dukinfield* lies about a mile to the N. of Hyde Junc., and forms almost a suburb of *Staley-bridge* (*Inn: Castle*), a busy manufacturing town of some 20,000 population, through which the river Tame

runs. It is consequently partly in Lancashire, although the largest portion is in Cheshire. There is not much to interest the tourist, the buildings being all modern, although it is probable that Staleybridge derives its name from the Staley or Stanley family, who intermarried with the Asshetons. *Eastwood House* is the seat of J. Cheetham, Esq. Staleybridge has direct communication with the S. by an independent rly. to Stockport, joining the main line to Manchester at Heaton Norris, and crossing the Manchester, Sheffield, and Lincolnshire line at

26½ m. GUIDE-BRIDGE JUNC., where the rly. enters Lancashire.
3¼ m. *Manchester* (Rte. 27).

ROUTE 17.

FROM STAFFORD TO WARRINGTON BY
CREWE.

(*London & North-Western Railway.*)

The London and North-Western Railway, the great main artery between London and Scotland, enters Cheshire soon after quitting *Madeley* Stat. (*Handbook for Staffordshire*), leaving on rt. the distant chimneys of the Madeley and Silverdale coal-pits, which betoken the limits of the North Staffordshire coal-field.

Nearer at hand is the village of *Bctley* and *Betley Hall* (G. Elliot, Esq.), between which and the rly. is *Betley Mere*, through which the

county boundary runs. On l. (2 m.) is *Doddington Park* (H. Akroyd, Esq.), possessing one of the largest lakes in the country next to Ellesmere.

23 m. (from Stafford) *Basford Stat.* 2 m. on l. are *Hough Hall* (R. G. Hill, Esq.) and *Wybunbury* village, the seat of the Bishop of Chester's old manor-house. The *ch.* is a fine E. E. building, with nave, aisles, and chancel. The interior contains a good stained E. window, and monuments to Sir Thomas Smith, of Hough, 1614, and his wife Anne, the latter under a canopied arch. In the parish are several old halls, which have sunk from their high estate into farm-houses, such as Checkley, Batherton, Stapeley, Basford, Shavington, &c.

25 m. CREWE JUNG. with the North Staffordshire, Great Western, Manchester, and Chester Railways (*Hotel: Railway*; very good) (Rte. 13). The main line to Liverpool and the North is the middle of the three that bifurcate northwards, immediately on leaving the station.

30 m. *Minshull-Vernon Stat.*, 3 m. from Middlewich (Rte. 21). On the rt. the country is rather flat and uninteresting, but on the l. it is more varied and broken, the river *Weaver* and its tributaries running parallel with the rly. in a pretty valley. 3 m. l. is *Darnhall*, the seat of —Corbett, Esq. In the time of Edward I. the monks of Dore, in Herefordshire, were removed to a monastery which then occupied the site of the present modern mansion, which was subsequently a summer residence for the monks of Vale Royal. After the dissolution of the monasteries it was sold to Sir Richard Corbett, Justice of the Common Pleas. There was a curious prophecy made by Nixon, the prophet of Cheshire, to the effect that "Darnhall Park shall be hacked and hewn."

Erdeswick Hall was the old resi-

dence of Sampson Erdeswick, the antiquary, who married the heiress of the Staffords, and settled at Sandon, in Staffordshire.

Large volumes of smoke on the l. betoken the approach to one of the centres of manufacturing Cheshire—the salt works of *Winsford*, next to Northwich, the most important seat of that trade in the county. 2 m. l. of *Winsford Stat.* is the village of *Over*, a small decayed town, which still goes through the ceremony of electing for itself a mayor, who enjoys the dignity without the responsibility of mayoral duties. *Over* is said to have been the birth-place of *Nixon*, whose celebrity was so great that even to this day his prophecies are quoted by the country people. There seems some doubt as to the precise time in which he lived, but the reign of James I. is usually associated with his sayings. In consequence of his reputation, he was sent for to court; but for some time declined to go, prophesying that he should be starved there; and it is said that this really happened, in consequence of his being shut up in a room as a punishment for mischief, and forgotten for three days. The *ch.* of *Over* is more than 1 m. to the S. 1½ m. to the N.W. of the village is *Marton Grange*, an old timber-and-plaster seat of the Mainwarings. Half-way between *Winsford* and 37 m. *Hartford Bridge Stat.*, the rly. crosses the *Weaver* by a lofty viaduct—a charming view on either side; the river, which is broad and deep, flowing through a richly wooded vale, on its way to Northwich. The woods on the l. are those of *Vale Royal*, the seat of Lord Delamere. The history of this picturesque old place dates from very early times. It is said that Prince Edward, the eldest son of Henry III., was overtaken by a storm on his return from the Holy Land, and vowed a vow that if he got to land safely he would found a convent for 100 Cistercian

monks; whereupon the vessel immediately righted and reached its port. At all events the monastery was founded by him in 1277, Queen Eleanor also assisting to lay the first stone, amidst a gathering of unusual magnificence. The old chroniclers were fond of inventing stories about the future glory of the new abbey; among others that, while the land was yet desolate and untrodden, shepherds heard music constantly playing on the site. The predictions were so far verified, that Vale Royal became rich and powerful; but with the power came tyranny, and the abbots systematically alienated the dependents in the neighbourhood by their harshness and injustice to such an extent, that in 1321 the monks dared not cross their threshold; and one John Boddeworth, who ventured to do so, was instantly murdered and a game of football played with his head. To such a pitch did the evil rise that the country people laid a complaint before Hugh, Justice of Chester, asserting that they were free tenants, and not vassals of the soil; but being refused a hearing, they appealed to the King, and impeached both the Justice and the Abbot. Again they were unsuccessful, and it was not until they came before Queen Philippa that they obtained a censure against the Abbot, who, on his return from court, was met by a body of his tenants, his retainers shot, and he himself dragged again before the King, who happened to be at Stamford. For nearly three centuries the abbey maintained an unusual splendour, but evil times at last fell upon it in the reign of Henry VIII., when the machinations of one Thomas Holcroft prevailed, the Abbot and monks turned out, and most of the land given to Holcroft, whose heirs, after two generations, sold the property to the Cholmondeleys.

In the Civil War, Vale Royal suffered nearly as badly as Bramhall, having been so thoroughly plundered

by Gen. Lambert and his troops, that the family are said to have only kept life in them by the milk of one white cow. Like Peter Davenport, Thomas Cholmondeley, after he had been robbed, was allowed to compound for it by a payment of 450*l.* The present house of Vale Royal consists of a centre and wings. Some of it was built by the Holcrofts in the time of Elizabeth; but of the old abbey there are no remains, save a doorway or two in the offices, and a few local names, such as the Nun's Grove and the Abbot's Walk.

33 m. *Hartford Stat.* (*Inn*: Railway) is 2½ m. from Northwich). The Cheshire Midland Rly. from Northwich to Helsby crosses the line here.

35½ m. *ACTON JUNC.*, with branch to Northwich (Rte. 20). In the neighbourhood are the village of *Weaverham* and *Hefferston Grange* (R. Heath, Esq.).

Weaverham is an old-fashioned little place, containing several timbered houses. The *ch.*, rebuilt in the time of James I., consists of a steeple, nave, chancel, side aisles, and two chapels, one belonging to Hefferston Grange, the other to Crowton Hall. Amongst the tenements on the glebe land is one still called the "Cuckstool,"—the original spot where the Abbots of Vale Royal exercised that branch of their jurisdiction. One of the curious powers that they had, was that of claiming twopence in the pound from each servant's wages. *Crowton Hall*, 1½ m. to the l. of Acton Stat., is a timber farmhouse of the early part of the 17th cent., and was the residence of the old family of Gerard, of whom was John Gerard, a famous herbalist of Nantwich in 1535.

Another beautiful view is gained a little further on, where the rly. crosses the Weaver again at Dutton Bottom by a lofty viaduct. In a charming situation on the north bank

of the river is *Dutton Hall*, the ancient seat of the Dutton family, celebrated in early Cheshire history as having jurisdiction over the minstrels of the county, which privilege was granted by Randle Blundeville to Roger de Lacy, and transferred by him to Hugh Dutton. He had also the questionable honour of the "advocaria meretricum," until the suppression of stews in Chester by Henry VIII. The house is a beautiful example of domestic architecture of the 16th centy. The E. side of the quadrangle, of timber and plaster, is still standing. In the centre a door opens into a passage, on one side of which was the buttery, and on the other the hall, separated from the passage with ornamented pilasters. The outer doorway of the hall porch is a broad arch, with fanciful arabesque borders, and the following inscription in black letter:—

"Syr Peys Dutton, Knyght, Lorde of Dutton and my lade dame julian hys wiffe made this hall and buylding in the yeare of

Our Lorde Gode MCCOCCXLIIII who thanketh Gode of all."

The Bridgewater Canal runs close alongside of the rly. on rt. to

89½ m. *PRESTON BROOK JUNC.*, from whence the direct Liverpool line is given off, via Runcorn (Rte. 24); and presently the line from Chester to Warrington crosses the London and North-Western at a high level.

42½ m. *Moors Stat.* The country, which has been broken and wooded, now becomes flat and rather marshy as the rly. crosses the Mersey and the Arpley meadows, and enters Lancashire at

45 m. *Warrington (Inn: Lion)*. (Rte. 26.)

ROUTE 18.

FROM STOCKPORT TO PENISTONE BY GLOSSOP.

(Manchester, Sheffield, and Lincolnshire Railway.)

The passenger from Stockport to Sheffield quits the town from the *Teviotdale Stat.*, a pretty brick building, with an open arcade in front, and gradually mounts to high ground overlooking the river.

¼ m. *Portwood Stat.* accommodates the eastern suburb of Stockport. The windings of the Goyt, which does not receive the name of Mersey till after the addition of the Tame, are exceedingly pretty on rt., and several handsome residences, such as *Bredbury Hall* (R. Shipman, Esq.) and others, show that the Stockport manufacturers have appreciated the beauty of the scene. At *WOODLEY JUNC.*, where the Midland line from Buxton to Manchester crosses, there is an establishment for making hats by steam. From hence a short branch communicates with the main line from Manchester to Sheffield, joining it at

5 m. *GODLEY JUNC.* Werneth Low is a prominent object on rt.

6½ m. *Mottram Stat.* The town of Mottram in Longendale is placed on a height in a wild and picturesque country, 1½ m. to the l. of the rly., standing sentinel, as it were, to the desolate and rugged country that runs from hence far into Lancashire, Derbyshire, and Yorkshire—the great backbone of millstone grit which forms such a special feature in northern England. The tourist seldom penetrates into this region, but it is worth visiting for all that, and the pedestrian will find in the

cloughs, edges, and mosses, of which the local names are composed, scenery of a very high order, though perhaps often repeating itself. *Mottram* has a fine old Perp. ch., possessing a nave, aisles, chancel, a tower, and two chapels belonging to *Hollingworth Hall* and the manor of *Staley*, in one of which are the recumbent figures of *Ralph Staleigh* and his wife, the former in mail armour. In the other is an altar-tomb, with the recumbent figure of *Serjeant Bretland*, died 1703, who is represented in his wig and gown, with a long Latin inscription. In the interior of the ch. is a painting of *Moses* and *Aaron*. The view from the churchyard is very extensive, looking down the vale to *Tintwistle*, and the *Derbyshire* hills on the other side the *Etherow*. In the neighbourhood are *Hill End* (*J. Chapman, Esq.*), *Thorncliffe Hall* (*F. Midwood, Esq.*), and *Hollingworth Hall* (*J. Hollingworth, Esq.*), the seat of that family since the time of *King John*. The village of *Hollingworth*, 1 m. N.E. of *Mottram*, is dependent on its cotton and print works. Immediately after leaving *Mottram*, the rly. crosses the *Etherow* and enters *Derbyshire*, but keeps close to the *Cheshire* boundary until it enters *Yorkshire* at *Woodhead*.

At 8½ m. *Dinting Vale Stat.* the rly. is carried across the valley by a remarkably beautiful viaduct of 7 stone and 5 timber arches of 125 ft. span and 120 ft. in height. [A short branch runs to the manufacturing town of *Glossop*, in *Derbyshire*, (*Hotel, Norfolk Arms*) a brisk, thriving place, very finely situated amidst the ravines of the upper district of the *Peak*, and possessing a large trade in cotton and calico printing. It is a great stronghold of the *Roman Catholic* community, who possess a handsome ch. and large school. This is probably owing to its being the manorial property of

the *Duke of Norfolk*, whose seat, *Glossop Hall*, adjoins the town. It has been modernised and enlarged, and with its ornamental grounds and terraces forms one of the choicest residences in the North. The ch., the tower and spire of which were added in 1855 by the *Duke*, contains a monument (bust) by *Bacon* to a *Mr. Hague*, who left several donations to the poor of the town. In the neighbourhood are some interesting earthworks; on the l. of the rly. *Melandra Castle*, an oblong rectangular fortification overlooking the *Etherow*, and on the rt. *Mouslow Castle*, a circular camp. The scenery of the *Etherow* becomes more wild and romantic as the rly. ascends the vale of *Longdendale*, the hills on the l. being rugged and escarped, and rising to a very considerable height.]

9½ m. *Hadfield Stat.*, to the N. of which, 1 m. (in *Cheshire*), is the village of *Tintwistle* (anciently called *Tengestvisie*), the grey houses betokening the plentifulness of the millstone grit of which the district is composed. The geologist will be interested to know that *Annelid* tracks and burrows have been discovered in the vicinity. *Tintwistle Hall* is a stone building, which in 1653 superseded an older one of timber, and was the ancient residence of the *De Burgh* family, the lords of *Longdendale*. As the rly. ascends the vale, an additional interest is given both to the scenery and the utility of the *Etherow* by the enormous lakes or "lodges" which have been formed for the *Manchester Waterworks*, the dams of which are perfectly *Cyclopean* in their massiveness. The *Arnfield* and *Hollingworth* reservoirs contain 48,000,000 cubic feet of water, the former holding 209,000,000 gallons, occupying 39 acres, and the latter holding 73,000,000 gallons, occupying 13 acres. *Rhodes Wood* holds

500,000,000 gallons, and is 54 acres in extent. Torside holds 1,474,000,000 gallons, occupying 160 acres, and Woodhead, of 135 acres, contains 1,235,000,000 gallons. The whole of the reservoirs in Longdendale have an united capacity of 3,491,000,000 gallons, and are calculated to supply Manchester with 30,000,000 gallons a day. The cost of construction was 1,300,000*l*.

At the eastern extremity of the Woodhead reservoir the rly. penetrates the mountains by the Woodhead Tunnel, nearly 3 m. in length, at the western end of which it enters Yorkshire. *Woodhead Chapel* was built by Sir Edward Shaa (or Shaw), Lord Mayor of London at the time of the usurpation of the crown by Richard III. From *Woodhead Stat.* the pedestrian can make an excursion over the hills to the S. to the head of the Derwent and descend its valley to Hope, or Hathersage. The distance to the source of the river is not very great (6 or 7 m.), but the walking over Featherbed Moss is difficult and tedious (*Handbook for Derbyshire*). From *Woodhead Stat.* it is 9 m. to Penistone (*Handbook for Yorkshire*).

ROUTE 19.

FROM STOCKPORT TO WARRINGTON
BY ALTRINCHAM AND LYMM.

This line forms a direct route between Sheffield, Stockport, Warrington, and Liverpool. Leaving

Stockport by the Teviotdale Stat., it keeps the bottom of the valley, frequently approaching the river.

2½ m. *Cheadle Stat.* This is a prettily situated village, and a favourite residence with Manchester business men, for whose convenience an omnibus runs several times a day. The *ch.* has a tower, nave, side aisles, and chancel, with three altartombs of the Brereton family. In the neighbourhood is *Abney Hall*, the residence of Sir James Watts, a cotton magnate, who was mayor of Manchester during the Prince Consort's visit to that town, and who was knighted accordingly.

4 m. *Northenden Stat.* The village lies to the rt. on the S. bank of the Mersey. Adjoining it is *Wythenshawe Hall* (T. W. Tatton, Esq.), a picturesque old gabled hall of the time of Edward III., part of which is of timber and plaster. In 1643 it was garrisoned for the king, but after a short siege surrendered to Col. Dukenfeld, who brought two pieces of ordnance from Manchester to reduce it. Mrs. Tatton was one of the garrison, and seeing a Parliamentary soldier sitting on a wall, seized a musket, and brought him down. He is supposed to have been a Captain Adams, who is buried at Stockport, and entered in the register as "slayne at Wittenshawe." Like many other Cheshire gentlemen, Mr. Tatton had to compound for his loyalty, and suffered severely in his estate. Until of late years "a curious custom existed in Northenden (more commonly called Northen), of singing 'May carols' under the chamber windows of the drowsy villagers on the eve of the 1st of May. Of course, the poet of the gang fits the song to suit each particular case, extemporising lines addressed to the several sons and daughters by name." The following is a sample of a couple of verses:—

"Rise up the little infant, the flower of the flock,
For the summer springs so fresh, green,
and gay;
The cradle that you do lay in, it stands
upon a rock,
Drawing near to the merry month of
May.

"Rise up, the fair Maid of this house, put on
your gay gold ring,
For the summer springs so fresh, green
and gay;
And bring to us a can of beer—the better
we shall sing,
Drawing near to the merry month of
May."

6½ m. BAGULEY JUNC., near which the Manchester and Mid-Cheshire line crosses the Stockport and Warrington Rly. *Baguley*, or *Baggiley*, Hall is now a farmhouse, but retains considerable traces of its splendour under the rule of its former owner, Sir Wm. Baggiley, in the time of Edward II. From that family it passed successively to the Leghs, Viscount Allen, and Mr. Tatton, of Wythenshawe. Bishop Percy, in one of his ballads, mentions one of the Leghs:—

"At Bagley that bearns
His biding place had,
And his ancestors of old time
Have yearded there long,
Before William Conqueror
This country did inhabit."

One side of the quadrangle is still left, containing the great hall, which is built of huge beams of oak, the interstices filled up with brickwork. At one end are passages from the exterior to the inner court, the doors of which are concealed from the hall by oak screens. In all Cheshire houses the hall is made lower than the rest of the building, as from its arched roof it does not admit an upper story.—*Ormerod*. The hall has been shortened by a modern erection, where the dais stood. At the opposite end, the doorways leading to the offices and the groining of the roof are perfect, and a capital example of 14th-centy. work. The roof rests upon wooden arches and pillars, the

spaces between being filled in with open trefoil-work. The windows are plain square mullions, with Dec. mouldings.

10½ m. *Broadheath Stat.*, ¾ of a mile from Altrincham (Rte. 20), the spire and houses of which place are seen on the hill to the l. *Oldfield Hall* is the seat of John Allen, Esq. From Broadheath the Watling Street runs due N. in its course from Cheshire to Manchester (Mancunium). 3 or 4 m. hence it crosses the Mersey, at a spot still called *Crossford*. On the Cheshire side was a Roman station supposed to be identical with the station called *FINES MAXIMÆ ET FLAVIÆ*, near the village of *Ashton-on-Mersey*, where there is a model farm, established by the late Mr. Sam. Brooks.

12 m. *Dunham-Massey Stat.* On the l. are the venerable woods of Dunham-Massey, the seat of the Earl of Stamford and Warrington, and a perfect paradise for Manchester picnickers and pleasure-seekers, who consider the woods pretty well their own, from the generous permission always accorded by the noble owner. The Norman barons had a castle here, but of this there are no remains. It attained its name, "The home of the Masseys on the downs," from its original possession by the Masseys, of whom Hamon Massey was first baron, and held the township under Hugh Lupus, Earl of Chester, in the reign of William the Conqueror. For a short time it passed into the hands of the Stranges, lords of Knockin, and afterwards into that of the Fittons. In the time of Henry VI. it came by marriage into the Booth family, one of whom, Sir George Booth, distinguished himself particularly, first on the side of the Parliament, and then of the Royalists, by whom he was rewarded with the command of the forces in the North-west, and made Baron Delamere. But he did not long con-

tinue a court favourite either with Charles II. or James II., and his son became a staunch partisan of the Prince of Orange, who created him Earl of Warrington. In 1758 this line came to an end, and the estate was brought to the Earl of Stamford by marriage with the heiress. The present title, therefore, of Warrington is a comparatively new creation, bestowed in 1796.

There is nothing particular in the aspect of the house, which is a plain quadrangular building of brick. The interior (not shown) contains a valuable collection of portraits by *Vandyck*, *Lely*, and other masters of the age of the Charleses. One of the curiosities of the private grounds is the dogs' burial-ground, where mastiffs and other old favourites have been interred with affectionate care. Some of the inscriptions date from a considerable time back, such as "Here lyeth Puce, of old vertues, who died Oct. 17, 1702," while verse marks the headstone of others—

"Now poor Lion is dead and gone,
Once by Joseph thought much on;
And the servants, one and all,
Do regret poor Lion's fall."

The chief beauty of Dunham-Massey is the *Park*, famous for its oak trees and its avenues of beeches, which rank among the finest in England. Of it Leland writes: "iii miles farther I cam by a parke on the left hande wher Master Bouthe dwellith." Ormerod tells us that this park contained 500 head of deer. In early spring or autumn Dunham is well worth a visit, and particularly on any great holiday, when swarms of excursionists turn out from Manchester to enjoy the charming scenery and the fresh air of the adjoining Bowdon Downs. Outside the park and on the road from Altrincham to Knutsford is *Dunham Ch.*, built in 1855 by the Earl of Stamford and Warrington from designs by Mr. *Hayley*, at a cost of 20,000*l.* It is

of Transition from Dec. to Perp. style, and beautifully ornamented throughout. It is cruciform, consisting of nave and aisles (with clerestory), transepts, choir, and a chapel, called the Stamford Chapel. The tower and spire, 210 ft. in height, form a conspicuous landmark. In the former is a fine peal of bells, one of which is thus inscribed:—

"As queen of queens, Victoria reigns,
I sit as queen o'er Music's strains;
And may her subjects loyal be
As mine! and dwell in harmony."

The interior of the ch. is very rich. The E. window of 7 lights is filled with stained glass (by *Willemet*), representing the Apostles and Prophets. The nave has a finely carved oak roof, with figures of angels at the end of the hammerbeams. The pulpit, font, and reredos are all exquisitely carved—the latter in good keeping with the E. window above it. The organ, by *Hill*, is placed in the N. transept, so as not to interfere with the effect of the transept window. The neighbouring towns of Altrincham and Bowdon are described in the next route. Adjoining the park on the W. is the pretty little village of *Bollington*, on the banks of the *Bollin*, and still further W. is *Agden Hall* (T. S. Bazley, Esq.), a modern Elizabethan residence built on the ruins of the old hall, the former seat of the *Agden* family, and well placed on *Agden Brow*, overlooking a large expanse of country.

To the rt. of *Dunham Stat.* (3 m.) is *Carrington Moss*, one of the large bogs which so often characterise the low levels of the Mersey lands. It is 750 acres in extent; but modern agriculture and deep draining are gradually absorbing it and bringing it into cultivation. The village of *Carrington* is situated on the river-side, at its junction with the *Irwell*. The Mersey has naturally a very winding course through this flat dis-

trict; but short cuts have been made to improve the navigation, and sluices to allow of irrigation. Carrington Old Hall is now a modern farmhouse.

The Bollin river is crossed at 14 m. *Heatley Stat.* 1 m. to the N. is *Warburton*, the ch. of which is one of the few remaining 14th-century churches with portions of the original timber. This is to be seen in the pillars that divide the nave and aisles. Warburton was once a place of consequence, having been selected by Henry II. as the locality for a monastery of Præmonstratensians. It did not flourish with the glory of Vale Royal, but became merged into the abbey of Cockersand, in Lancashire (Rte. 42). The only trace of the priory is now to be found in the name of a field, called the Abbey Croft, and a few tombstones in the churchyard. To the E. of the ch. are vestiges of the moat which encircled the old hall, the residence of the Warburton family.

15½ m. *Lymm Stat. (Inn: Plough).* The ancient town of Lymm is rather more than a mile from the stat., and occupies a most picturesque situation on the New Red sandstone terrace that runs across North Cheshire. The ch., placed at the head of a charming dingle, through which the Dane rushes brawling down, is old, of the same stone, and was restored in 1850. It is of Dec. date, and has a tower, nave, side aisles, transepts, choir, and a chapel, which once belonged to the family of Domville, the former possessors of Lymm Hall. The E. window is a memorial to the late rector, who died in 1865.

The lake, which is formed by a dam close to the ch., and the wooded dingle below it, are a source of great attraction to visitors; indeed, the whole course of this little stream affords a constant succession of pretty peeps. At the uppermost part of the dam, which is private property, a curious little "dropping" cave has

been formed by the undermining of the bank by a small tributary stream. *Polygonum amphibium* grows abundantly on the surface of the lake.

Lymm Hall (J. Barratt, Esq.), once the residence of the Domville family, is an old grey building within a moat, and near the gates are the steps of a cross cut out of the solid New Red sandstone.

This formation, or the *Triassic*, is that of which the greater portion of Cheshire strata is composed, and is the source from whence the great supplies of rock-salt are derived (*Introduction*, page xxiv). The geologist will find a peculiar interest in the quarries at Lymm (beyond the ch.), for they have yielded large numbers of the footprints of the Cheirotherium or Labyrinthodon, a gigantic kind of tortoise that flourished in the Triassic era. The only other localities in England where they have been found are at Storeton, near Birkenhead (Rte. 25), and in Warwickshire. In the neighbourhood of Lymm are *Statham Lodge* (P. Stubs, Esq.), and *Oughtrington Hall* (G. B. Dewhurst Esq.), the former seat of the Leighs.

Some 2 m. to the S.E. of Lymm is the township of *High Leigh*, in which, closely adjoining each other, are the grounds of *West Hall* (Major Egerton Leigh), and *East Hall* (G. C. Legh, Esq.). In Henry II.'s time this manor was granted in moieties to Hamon de Legh, progenitor of the West Hall family, and Edward, the ancestors of the Leghs of East Hall. A fine Elizabethan mansion was erected at East Hall by Thomas Legh, but pulled down at the end of the last century, and the present building substituted. In the grounds (which were laid out by *Repton*) is the old chapel, built in 1581, in which the family pew formerly stretched across the whole of the E. end. *West Hall*, too, has its chapel, built in 1815, in lieu of an

older one of the date of 1404. The old hall, now a farm-house, was once the most beautiful timber-house in the county.

17½ m. *Thelwall Stat.* The village is said to be of Saxon origin, and tradition states that Edward the Elder founded a port here in 923, the river having been then much wider than it is now. However that may have been, there is no doubt but that the course of the Mersey is considerably altered from what it was in old times. Near Thelwall it makes one of those large bends, almost enclosing a flat alluvial river meadow, which in this neighbourhood are known by the name of "Ees" (qy. ynys or island?) such as Thelwall Ees, Rixton Ees, Lymm Ees, &c. Close to the rly. are *Thelwall Hall* (J. Nicholson, Esq.), and *Greenfield* (J. Stanton, Esq.). A little higher up the river are the ruins of a powder-mill, where the manufacture had been carried on for more than 100 years, until an explosion in 1855 destroyed the buildings.

Grappenhall Ch., on l., was built in the 16th centy., and consists of nave, 3 aisles, transept, and chancel. The N. aisle projects further E. than the S. aisle. There is some carved tabernacle work, and some old stained glass in the interior.

Sir P. Leicester says that "Sir William Boydell, of Dodleston, built a chappell in this church, wherein William Boydell, his son and heir, swore to find an honest chaplin, to pray for the souls of the said Sir William and Nichola his wife, 1334." *The Hall* (Mrs. Greenall), and *The Heys* (T. Parr, Esq.).

20½ m. *Latchford Stat.* This is a suburb of Warrington, although on the Cheshire side of the river. The termination of the name shows its proximity to the river. By following the Old Quay Canal a little to the S., the antiquary will again

reach the Mersey at the site of the old *Roman Stat.*, now called Wilderspool. There is nothing left to identify it except the causeway, which leads by the side of the river to Warrington; but at various times foundations of dwellings, pottery, and coins of the time of Vespasian and Domitian, have been disinterred. Many antiquaries believe Wilderspool to be the locality of the ancient Veratinum; and it is clear that a road ran through it from Warrington to Northwich, through Appleton and Stretton, the names of which places betoken their vicinity to it.

Appleton village and Hall (T. H. Lyon, Esq.) are situated on the slope of a steep new red sandstone knoll, known as Hill Cliff, which formerly was surmounted by a beacon. It is now the locality of the Warrington water-works.

A little beyond Latchford the rly. crosses the Mersey into Lancashire, and enters 21½ m. *Warrington* at the Arpley Stat. (Rte. 26).

ROUTE 20.

FROM MANCHESTER TO CHESTER BY
ALTRINCHAM, NORTHWICH AND
DELAMERE FOREST.

(*Mid-Cheshire Railway.*)

The line from Manchester to Altrincham enters Cheshire immediately on crossing the Mersey, near

3½ m. Stretford Stat. The village is pretty and rural. It is recorded that in 1581 the curate of Stretford was presented or prosecuted for keeping an alehouse, and was prohibited from keeping "any ale or other victuals to sell in his house."

5 m. Sale Stat. (Hotel: Leigh Arms), much in request for villa residences of Manchester merchants. Sale Old Hall was formerly the seat of the Masseys.

6 m. Brooklands Stat.

7 m. Timperley Stat. On the rt., near the river, are *Riddings*, an old mansion approached across a moat by a stone gateway, and *Fir Tree Farm*, an old-fashioned farmhouse of timber and plaster (date 1676). There is a pretty modern *ch.* at Timperley, with a conspicuous spire. In the neighbourhood the botanist will find *Melilotus arvensis*.

The line almost immediately passes under the Stockport and Warrington Rly. (Rte. 19), and arrives at **8 m. Altrincham Stat. (Hotel: Unicorn).** Altrincham, though containing nothing of antiquarian interest, is by no means a modern town, the inhabitants having obtained many privileges from Hamon de Massey in the reign of Edward I., and, amongst others, a "Guild of Free Traffic" and an exemption from tolls. Though in itself there is little to see, it is pleasant, clean, and cheerful, in addition to which its proximity to Bowdon Downs and the woods of Dunham Massey are always attractions to visitors and residents.

The buildings worth notice are the Town-hall, the Literary Institution, and Lloyd's Hospital—all modern and built of brick, with stone facings. The neighbourhood is principally devoted to gardening, and is famous for a particular carrot, called the Altrincham, or green-top-carrot.

A short branch of 1 m. leads to *Bowdon*, the celebrity of whose downs for charming scenery and

beautiful air is somewhat more than local. But it has paid the usual penalty of its attractions and its neighbourhood to a large city, by being built over as fast as possible. Bowdon (called in 'Domesday' Boge-don) derives its name from Saxon "bode," a dwelling, and "dun," down; and is said, even in those early days, to have possessed a church, a priest, and a grinding-mill. The importance of its church seems to have clung all along to it, for there is a local proverb that "every man is not born to be vicar of Bowdon." It is one of the finest in the county, and has been restored upwards of three times, viz., in 1320, 1520, and 1860. It is of the style of late Perp., and consists of nave, aisles, transepts, and choir, with two chantries, called the S. or Dunham chapel, and the N. or Carrington chapel. The last restoration has been carried out in excellent taste from the designs of Mr. *Brakespear*, of Manchester, and the interior is now characterised by great breadth and beauty of proportion. There are also some fine memorial windows, especially the Crucifixion, in the E. window, given by the late Alderman Neild; the Miracles and Parables, in the transept windows (by *Clutterbuck*). Amongst the monuments is one by *Westmacott*, to the Assheton family. In the Dunham chapel is a mural monument to Langham and Henry Booth, the young sons of an Earl of Warrington, 1724; also to the Earl of Warrington, son of Lord Delamere, who was committed to the Tower and tried for high treason in 1681. In the Carrington chapel are figures of William Brereton, of Ashley, and his wife, Jane Warburton. Around them are 7 kneeling figures, one of an infant in swaddling-clothes, and another which holds a scroll. The neighbourhood of Bowdon abounds in pleasant walks—such as to Dunham-Massey (Rte. 19) 1 m., to Rostherne 8 m., passing the

vicarage (Ven. Archdeacon Pollock), and crossing the pretty streams of the *Bollin* and the *Birkin*—of which Drayton says :

“ And Bollen, that along doth nimbler Birkin
bring
From Maxfield's mightie wildes.”

to Ashley 2 m., to Agden 4 m.

Quitting the Cheshire Midland Stat. at Altrincham, the traveller leaves Bowdon to the rt. and stops at 8½ m. *Peel Causeway Stat.* To l., 1½ m., is *Hale*, which had a bad character, if we are to believe Sir Philip Leicester, the historian of Cheshire : “ The chapel was much frequented by schismatical ministers, and, as it were, a receptacle for nonconformists, in which dissolute times every pragmatical illiterate person, as the humour served him, stepped into the pulpit, without any lawful calling thereto or license of authority.”

10½ m. *Ashley Stat.*, a good starting-point from whence to follow up the valley of the *Bollin*, a stream dear to the Cheshire angler for the size and flavour of its trout. It is also famous for possessing a fish, called the “graining” (*Leuciscus Lancastriensis*), supposed to be peculiar to the North of England and to some of the Swiss lakes. It is nearly allied to the dace, but differs in several particulars. It is said to be found also in the tributaries of the Mersey, near Warrington and Knowsley.

Near the stat. on rt. is *Ashley Hall*, now a farmhouse, but still very interesting, from its old-fashioned appearance, its rookery, and its quaint garden. Ashley was the property of the Asheton family till 1846, when Mr. Asheton Smith, the representative of that family, and the famous sportsman, sold it to Lord Egerton of Tatton. Historically, Ashley is celebrated for being the rendezvous of the Cheshire gentry to decide the course of action with respect to joining the standard of Charles Edward in 1715. The mem-

bers of this important meeting were Thomas Asheton of Ashley, Henry Legh of High Legh, John Warren of Poynton, Amos Meredith of Henbury, Sir Ralph Grosvenor of Eaton, Earl of Barrymore, Peter Legh of Lyme, Alexander Radcliffe, Robert Cholmondeley, Charles Hurlson, and Edward Beresford. The casting vote was given against the enterprise by Mr. Asheton. The hall contained a series of portraits of many of these gentlemen; but they were removed to Tatton by Lord Egerton.

[2 m. to the W. of Ashley Stat. is the village of *Rostherne*, and the lovely *Rostherne Mere*, the largest of the Cheshire meres, and indeed the only one which has any pretensions to scenery. It is 115 acres in extent, and of very great depth. “ On the southern margin, a short distance to the W. of the summer-house, it is 17 ft., and about a third of the distance across from this point, the depth is over 100 ft.” Towards the S. the banks gradually rise to a considerable height, and, being well wooded, form a most charming feature in the landscape. All sorts of legends are current about *Rostherne*, as is the case with most lakes which are reported to be deep. One is that it communicates with the Irish Channel by a subterranean passage; another (not so improbable), that it once formed with Tabley, Tatton, Mere, and other lakes, a vast sheet of water that covered the country between Alderley and High Legh. Whatever its antecedents may have been, *Rostherne* is well worth a visit, and has a peculiar though melancholy character of its own. The botanist will find here *Ceratium aquaticum* and *Lyssimachia nummularia*.

Overlooking the lake on the S. is the pretty little ch. of *Rostherne* (Rodes-torne, the tarn of the Holy Rood), embowered in trees, and the beau-ideal of a sequestered country ch. The ch.-yd. is entered by a

picturesque old lych gate. The ch. itself is not so old (1533), and the architecture is of a debased character. At the W. end is a pinnacled tower; and a peculiar appearance is given to the body of the building by a row of windows like dormer windows. Internally, the aisles are divided from the nave by 6 arches. The oak pulpit was given by Lord Egerton of Tatton, and the stained-glass E. window is by *Hardman*. There are chapels for the manors of West Hall, Agden, Mere, and Tatton, and one divided between Over Tabley and East Hall. The Egerton chapel, on S. of the chancel, is remarkable for its monuments, and particularly for one by *Westmacott*, to Charlotte Beatrix Egerton, who was found dead in her bed, aged 21. It is a gem of exquisite beauty and repose. There is also one by *Bacon* to Mr. Brooke of Mere Hall, 1815, and a very large and rather grandiose sarcophagus by *Bacon*, to Mr. Egerton of Tatton, 1792. The tablet is supported by the figures of Patience and Hope. Notice also the effigy of a knight in chain armour, found in digging the foundations of the tower. The village of Rostherne is very small, but shows the care of a good resident landlord in its neat houses and school. *The Hall* is the seat of the Hon. Wilbraham Egerton. The visitor can either return to Ashley Stat., or walk to Bowdon, across the Birkin and Bollin valleys—a charming walk; or proceed to Knutsford, 4m., joining the turnpike road at 1 m. *Bucklow Hill* (Swan Inn, good roadside hostelry), which gives its name to the Hundred of Bucklow.

2 m. *Mere Hall* (T. J. Brooke, Esq.), a handsome Elizabethan residence overlooking the lake of Mere. Behind Mere Hall is the *Old Hall* (D. B. Davies, Esq.), and between this and High Legh is *Hoo Green*, where Dick Turpin is said to have been apprehended, after committing

a robbery at Newbridge, between Bucklow and Altrincham. 4 m. Knutsford.]

12 m. *Mobberly Stat.* A priory formerly existed here, founded by Patrick de Mobberly for Regular Canons, 1206; but the only relic of it is to be found in a piscina and sedilia in the ch., which contains also an interesting old roodloft. Amongst other curiosities are a brass to James Stanley, 1674; a parchment monument, painted to look like marble, to Thomas Mallory, the possessor of the Old Hall, 1713; and a monument to Elizabeth Robinson, consisting of a representation, on wood, of a body laid out with its shroud, to the accompaniment of several chants and Latin inscriptions.

In the neighbourhood of Mobberly are *Mobberly Hall* and *New Hall* (Major Blakiston), *Newton Hall* (J. Bird, Esq.); and between Mobberly and Knutsford is *Dukenfield Hall*, now a farmhouse. It was once the seat of the Daniels family, the head of which is said to have been present at the meeting at Ashley Hall, and to have then and there quarrelled with his brother-in-law, Captain Ratcliffe. They adjourned to a field, where the captain was slain, and the place is still known as the "Bloody." Near Mobberly grow *Ononis arvensis*, *Cicuta virosa*, *Pimpinella magna*, *Orchis conopsea* (Knutsford Moor).

15 m. *Knutsford (Inns: Royal George, good; Angel)* is the capital of Mid-Cheshire, inasmuch as the quarter sessions are held here, and it is the seat of the county gaol. Otherwise it is a quiet, prosy little place, dependent on the agricultural neighbourhood around, and the many wealthy families that reside near it. The ch. is a plain brick building of the last centy., and contains nothing of interest except a stained E. window to the memory of a former vicar.

The site of the old ch. is about 1 m. to the E. of the town. It now marks the burial-place of the Leghs of Norbury Booths; although the ch. itself, which was partly rebuilt in Henry VIII.'s reign, did not fall till 1741. There is a splendid view from this spot, extending from Rivington Pike on the N. to Alderley and Cloud End. The *Gaal* is the principal institution in Knutsford, though, of course, it is not open to the general visitor. The separate system is adopted, and there is accommodation for 171 prisoners. From its quiet situation and distance from manufacturing towns, Knutsford has preserved several old customs, amongst which is a very pretty one. "On the occasion of specially interesting weddings, every householder works upon the ground in front of his house a pretty device or motto in coloured sands, so that the streets and roadways are one continuous arabesque."

—*Grindon*. Mrs. Gaskell, in her sketches of "Cranford," in 'Household Words,' is believed to have selected Knutsford as the locale of her pleasant story. Sir H. Holland, Physician Extraordinary to the Queen, is a native of the town.

Immediately on the outskirts of the town is the lodge-gate of *Tatton*, the noble seat of Lord Egerton of Tatton, situated in "an extensive and well-wooded park, from 10 to 11 m. in circumference, and containing about 2500 acres, and herds of 800 fallow and 40 red deer. This park is noticed in Speed's map of the county, engraved in the reign of James I. It was greatly enlarged by Samuel Egerton, Esq., about the year 1760. It is at present by far the largest park in the county, if not throughout the whole of England."

—*Shirley*. There were once two large lakes in the park, but one of them has been drained. *Cicuta virosa* may be found here.

The house is a fine Grecian building, of white freestone, commenced

from designs by *Samuel Wyatt*; but it was not finished until Mr. Wilbraham Egerton's time, under the superintendence of *Lewis Wyatt*, although it is said to consist of but one wing of the original plan. Each column of the portico is of a single block of Runcorn stone. The house is not shown, but the gardens are opened to visitors on Saturdays at 2 o'clock. Tatton formerly belonged to the family of that name, and was held under the priory of St. John of Jerusalem. By marriage it passed successively from the Tattons to the Masseys, Stanleys, and Breretons, the last of whom settled it on his brother-in-law, Sir Thomas Egerton, Lord Chancellor.

$\frac{3}{4}$ m. to the S. of Knutsford is *Norbury Booths Hall*, the seat of J. P. Legh, Esq.; and $1\frac{1}{2}$ m. is *Toft Hall* (R. O. Leycester, Esq.), an old-fashioned brick house with wings, and a central tower. There is a beautiful avenue of elms here. The ch. (built in 1854) contains a font of Caen stone, the panels of which are exquisitely sculptured. 2 m. further S. is *Over Peover Hall*, the seat of Sir Harry Mainwaring, Bart., an old Elizabethan house, erected by Sir Randle Mainwaring, and still preserving its characteristic gables, covered with ivy. The ch., close by the Hall, contains the Mainwaring chapel, and monuments to that family, including Sir John Mainwaring, in plate armour (1515), his wife, and 15 children. There is also an alabaster slab to Randle Mainwaring, and Margery, his wife, 1456, the figure and features of the latter being beautifully carved.

From Peover the pedestrian need not return to Knutsford, unless he wish, but can make his way to *Chelford* Stat. (Rte. 13), $2\frac{1}{2}$ m. to the E.

2 m. W. of Knutsford is *Tabley*, the seat of Lord de Tabley. The present *Hall* is a brick house (from

designs by Carr), consisting of a centre and wings, connected by corridors. In front is a Doric portico, and a fine terrace. The chief object of interest here is the *Old Hall*, built upon an island in the lake. The E. side only of this ancient timber house is left, and contains a low wainscoted hall, oak staircase, and gallery, a carved chimney-piece, 1619, and a bay window of stained glass with the Leicester pedigree. Some remarkable timber-work has, within the last few years, been opened to view under the judicious discretion of the present peer, together with some plaster panelling, the dints still remaining upon which once served as a target for the amusement of the ancient owner and his friends. For here dwelt, in seclusion, Sir Peter Leicester, one of the most devoted servants of the royal cause, for which, however, he suffered severely in his worldly comfort and prosperity. He settled down at Tabley, and passed his time in literary and antiquarian pursuits, chief amongst which was his work on the 'History of Cheshire,' the basis of almost every other work of the kind.

The chapel was built by him in 1675, and is still used. It is said to have been copied from Brazenose old chapel at Oxford. The gallery contains a large number of paintings, some of them of great excellence. Amongst them are two large original paintings by Turner, in his earlier style.

From Knutsford the rly. runs S.W. to 17½ m. *Plumley Stat.* Near it, on rt., is *Holford Hall*, the old seat of the Cholmondeleys, now a farmhouse. It is of timber and plaster, and has a moat. The original plan of the building was three-sided only, the fourth side being formed by the moat and the bridge. The upper story, looking into the interior of the court, projects on wooden pillars over a

piazza. Leaving on rt. the village of *Lostock Gralam*, the traveller arrives at

21 m. NORTHWICH JUNC. with the London and North-Western rly. from Sandbach. *Northwich (Inns: Crown and Anchor; Angel)* is not only the busiest (except Stockport), but the dirtiest town in Cheshire, both of which distinctions it derives from being the principal seat of the salt trade. Drayton thus writes:—

“And what the famous flood far more than that enriches,
The brackly Fountains are those two renowned Wyches,
The Nant-Wych and the North, whose either bryne well,
For store and sorts of salts make Weever to excell.”

Although it is of very considerable antiquity, there is really nothing to see in the place itself, all the interest being concentrated in the outskirts, where the principal mines are to be found. The glittering beauty that a salt-mine displays, when seen under proper circumstances, has no counterpart in the scenery of the surface, but rather the reverse; for there is an air of desolation and untidiness which one usually finds in a coal-mining district. Moreover, some of the same physical disadvantages are to be found in the shape of subsidences of the earth, which are anything but slightly, and are exceedingly detrimental to house property. “Immense excavations are occasioned by the constant pumping up of brine, at a depth of 35 to 40 yds., which creates large chasms, and the superincumbent pressure depresses the land in a corresponding ratio. Many of the houses are screwed and bolted together to keep them secure; and if the salt-works continue to be prosecuted with their present vigour, the time will come when a great portion of the town and the neighbourhood of Northwich will be sunk beneath the level of the waters of

the Weever. Witton corn-mill fell some years ago. Adjoining its site is the Leicester Arms public-house, in which a gradual subsidence of the earth has converted the sitting-rooms and tap-room into cellars, and the apartments used as sleeping-rooms at that period are now the sitting-rooms and the tap-room."—*Kelly*. Of the antiquity of the salt trade, Camden says that "Northwich was in British, *Hellath du*, signifying the black salt-pit, where there is a deep and plentiful brine-pit, with stairs about it, by which, when they have drawn the water in their leather buckets, they ascend half naked to the troughs and fill them; from whence it is conveyed to the Wich Houses, that are furnished with great piles of wood."

King, in his 'Vale Royal,' also states that "at Northwich there was a salt-spring or brine-pit on the bank of the River Dane, from which the brine runneth on the ground in troughs of wood, covered over with boards, until it comes to the wich houses, where they made salt."

The beds of *salt*, which, fortunately for Cheshire, exist in such quantities, are geologically found in the Keuper strata of the Triassic or New Red Sandstone series, which, with the underlying Bunter Sandstone of the same series, form three-fourths of the county. The salt, however, is entirely found in the upper or Keuper bed, which, speaking roughly, occupies the districts watered by the Weever, Dane, and Bollin rivers; though it is in the valley of the Weever that the great salt-stores are found, as at Nantwich, Wheelock, Middlewich, Winsford, and Northwich.

"The district generally known by the name of Northwich is locally divided into Hartford, Castle Northwich, and Winnington on the western side of the Weever; Leftwich, between the Weever and the Dane, which there join; Witton and North-

wich, having the Dane on the S., the Weever on the W., and Witton Brook on the N.; and Marbury and Anderton on the N. side of the Weever."—*Ormerod*, 'Geol. Soc. Journal.'

Two kinds or classes of salt are worked and exported from Northwich, the rock and the white salt, the latter being the ordinary salt with which the world in general is acquainted. The former is principally shipped to Belgium and Prussia, quantities varying from 50,000 to 60,000 tons being annually sent down the Weever in flat-bottomed boats made for the purpose, to the Mersey near Frodsham. Rock salt was discovered at Marbury by accident in 1670, in a trial for coal; and for many years after that, only the upper bed of the two that are now known was worked. The depth down to the upper bed varies with the irregularity of the ground, but is generally from 96 to 159 ft. The thickness of the upper bed varies from 84 to 90 ft., but it thins off towards the S.W., losing 15 ft. in the course of a mile. Below this is a bed of indurated clay (30 ft.) overlaying the second or great bed of salt, which is now the principal source of the supplies. At Marston Pit, this bed is 151 ft. in thickness, but the proportion of earth in the salt varies very much, the purest salt being found about the middle of the deposit.

The salt mine which is most usually visited is the Marston mine, or *Old Marston*, as it is popularly called, belonging to Messrs. Fletcher and Rigby, and situated about $1\frac{1}{2}$ m. to the N.E. of Northwich. It has been worked for over 100 years, is 120 yards in depth, and is excavated to an area of 33 acres. On state occasions—such as that on which the Emperor of Russia visited it in 1844, and subsequently the British Association in 1854—the mine is brilliantly lighted up by thousands of lamps and blue lights,

and the effect of the whole is extraordinarily fine. It is occasionally illuminated on gala days, such as Whitmonday, when enormous numbers of people go down on payment of a small fee. "The roof of the mine, near the shaft, is above the floor, and supported by 8 colossal pillars of crystal, each pillar being 30 yards long by 10 in breadth. Elsewhere the supporting pillars are 10 yards square, and 25 yards apart, and by means of them the mine, which is one vast subterranean hall, is divided into a number of chambers, called "drifts" or "runs," not exactly like streets, though apparently so, seeing that the separation is effected solely by the pillars, and that there is no continuity of wall."—*Grindon*. But seen apart from these fortuitous lightings, the interior of a salt mine is not particularly striking; nor is the aspect of rock salt itself usually of a very brilliant character, resembling more a piece of sugar-candy or smoked quartz. Sometimes it is mixed with earth or clay, although occasionally lumps of the clearest crystal are found.

The *white salt*, which is shipped to all parts of England, America, and India, is obtained from the brine, which all over the salt districts is generally found lying on the top of the rock salt, the melting of which by the brine, together with the chasms caused by the pumping it up, creates those sub-vidences spoken of above. "The brine at Northwich does not rise to the surface. The rock salt at Mr. Marshall's pit is 55 ft. below sea-level, and the depth at which the brine stands varies according to the number of pits at work. When in full work, the level will be lowered from 34 to 46 ft. below sea-level."—*Geol. Soc. Trans.* The brine, when pumped up, is taken by pipes to the salt-pans, which are shallow iron vessels of various size, the object

being to expose as large a surface of the brine as possible to the atmosphere and the heat for evaporation.

The curious appearance of these ghostly salt-pans, the clouds of white vapour that issues from the brine, the weird figures fitting in and out of it, and the white crusts from the leakage of the pipes, give a melancholy and mysterious impression, which is quite peculiar to the salt manufacture. Under the pans are the furnaces, which supply the heat, and it is by the regulation of the temperature that the different kinds of salt are produced, the very coarse grained requiring a heat of 130° Fabr., and fishing salt only 100°, so as to allow the salt to be deposited in large cubical crystals. For lump salt a much greater heat is required, so as to cause quicker evaporation. The salt is then raked out and dried, and transferred into the flats to be taken down the river to Liverpool, to which port 721,423 tons were sent in 1867.

In addition to the salt mines and brine pits, which employ a large population, Northwich contains docks, boat-building establishments, iron foundries, and various other accessories to a staple trade.

Rail to Altrincham, 13 m.; Acton, 4½ m.; Stockport, 22½ m.; Manchester, 21 m.; Middlewich, 6 m.; Crewe, 15 m.; and branch rlys. are being made, but not yet completed, to Winsford, 4 m.; Winnington, 1½ m. Omnibus to Delamere Forest, 7 m.; Tarvin, 12½ m.; and Chester, 17 m.

Crossing the bridge and ascending the steep hill on which Northwich Castle formerly stood, the visitor arrives at

1½ m. *Winnington*, formerly the property and residence of the family of that name, in the reign of Henry VIII. The village is now devoted to saltworks, and the hall is a boarding-school. In 1659 Sir Geo. Booth, on the part of the Presbyterian

Royalists, was defeated at Winnington Bridge by the Parliamentary soldiers under Lambert.

On the other side of the Weaver and the Trent and Mersey Canal is *Anderton*, of which a local proverb says, "There is in it neither beggar, cottager, nor ale-house, but a common without end, for that the common is circular, lying round about the township."

1 m. to the N. is *Marbury Hall*, the fine seat of A. H. Smith Barry, Esq. It was once the manor-house of the Marburys or Merburys in the time of Henry III., and was purchased by Lord Rivers of Rock Savage, whose daughter brought it by marriage to the Earl of Barrymore. The house (of red brick, with a stone corridor) overlooks Budworth Mere, the grounds running down to the water's edge. The interior contains a fine collection of paintings and statuary. Amongst the chefs-d'œuvre are:—

Vandyck, St. John, Virgin and Child. "The execution, in a warm tone, resembling Titian, is of great solidity." *Bonifazio*, The Marriage of St. Catherine. *Salvator Rosa*, "a picture erroneously called Christ on the Mount of Olives, but in my opinion representing the Angel announcing the Birth of Samson. The figures are disagreeable, and the colouring a heavy brown." *W. Canaletto*, Grand Canal. *Beltraffio*, a scholar of Leonardo da Vinci — an altarpiece, Virgin and Child, with St. John holding a chalice. Next to Beltraffio's picture in the Louvre, this is his most important work, and the most remarkable picture in this collection. *Lodovico Caracci*, St. Francis praying. *Velasquez*, Cupid with Birds and Ducks. *Le Sueur*, Holy Family. *Tintoretto*, St. Catherine, "alight, of very spirited painting." *Paris Bordone*, Virgin and Child. *Annibal Caracci*, the Cartoon for

the Fresco in the Farnese Palace. *Vandyck*, Virgin in Glory, "admirably composed, of spirited motions, delicate colouring and keeping." *Rubens*, Three Amorini occupied with Harvest. *Gaspar Poussin*, Landscape with Waterfall. *G. Honthorst*, Christ being mocked. "Conception too realistic, but the execution in a warm tone, and careful." *Nick. Poussin*, Landscape. *S. Rosa*, ditto. *G. Honthorst*, Christ before Pilate by candlelight.

2 m. N.W. of Marbury is *Cogshall Hall* (T. Clark, Esq.), and 1½ m. N.E., on an eminence, overlooking the meres of Budworth and Pickmere, is the village of *Great Budworth*.

The *ch.* consists of nave, transepts, chancel, and aisles, the latter separated from the nave by pointed arches springing from clustered columns. In the chancel are some good oak stalls. The S. transept is a chapel belonging to the Warburtons of Arley, and contains an altar-tomb of red stone, with the mutilated figure of a knight. The N. transept contains monuments to the families of Brooke of Mere, Barry of Marbury, and Leicester of Tabley. There is a stained-glass memorial window to the late J. H. Leigh, Esq.

A little to the N. of Budworth is *Belmont*, and between Budworth and High Leigh is *Arley Hall*, the seat of R. Egerton Warburton, Esq., in very correct Renaissance style. Close to the hall is a pretty Deco. chapel, with a good stained-glass window. The celebration of *May-day* is still kept up at Arley by dancing round the *May-pole* and rustic sports upon the green,—a lovely piece of turf, surrounded on two sides by an ancient timber building, now used as a school, and a range of dwellings for the schoolmaster, organist, and choir-boys. On the third side stands the chaplain's residence, while the fourth slopes down to the lake. A daily choral service is maintained,

to which the public is freely admitted.

The West Cheshire Rly. runs from Northwich to Helsby Junc., passing the stations of *Harford*, *Cuddington* (from whence there is a branch to *Winsford* and *Over*), *Delamere*, *Mouldsworth*, and *Manley*. Communication is thus afforded between the Salt districts and the Mersey.

The road from Northwich to Chester ascends a rather steep hill on the other side of the bridge, which was once the old Watling Street. At 2½ m. the road crosses the London and North-Western main line at *Harford*. There is a small inn here, and another frequented by hunting men during the season, at 3¼ m. *Sandivay Head*, close to which is the entrance to the beautiful park of Vale Royal (Lord Delamere) (Rte. 17). At 5 m. a road on l. runs to *Tárporeley*, and the traveller enters the district of *Delamere Forest*, the aspect of which is very different from that which it presented a few hundred years ago. Indeed, two centuries since, it contained 11,000 acres of wood, but the progressive steps of cultivation have gradually invaded it, and each year sees more cleared land and less of the forest. A fine farm has been established on a very large scale, and with all the appurtenances of modern husbandry by Mr. Leather, not far from the *Vale Royal Inn*, where the omnibus halts for a few minutes. "The Earls of Chester, being the local sovereigns of the county, held, after the manner of their royal superiors, the forests or chases in their own hands. In the forest or chase of Delamere are two elevated points on the side which overlooks the Mersey and the Vale of Chester — 'the New Pale,' enclosed in the 17th centy., and 'the Old Pale,' enclosed by virtue of a precept now remaining in the Exchequer of Chester, directed to John Done, in the eleventh year of Ed-

ward III., commanding him to make a 'chamber in the forest' for the preservation of vert and venison. In this pale is the site of a lodge which bears that name, and where the foresters occasionally resided. In 1617, it appears, by the account given of the progress of James I. through this county, that the chase or forest of Delamere contained 'no small store of deer, both red and fallow.' Both are now extinct, though the woody character of the forest remains."—*Shirley*. In very old records it was called the Forest of Mara in Mondrum, and extended almost to Nantwich. The Abbey of Vale Royal had the right of obtaining fuel; Chester Castle and the Dee Mills, of obtaining timber for repairs. The same privilege belonged to the burgesses of Frodsham; and the monks of the Abbey of St. Werburgh were allowed to appropriate part of the venison. The Act of Enclosure was passed in 1812, and at the present time there are not much more than 4000 acres of timber. But shorn as it is of its former glories, Delamere Forest is still a place of great enjoyment for the botanist and those who love the deep shady nooks of forest ground; and from the elevation of the land, overlooking the broad and fertile vale of Chester, and the flat districts that border the Mersey, very beautiful and extensive views are gained on every side.

"Bat Delamere from thence his fancie quickly took,
Who shews herself all drest in most delicious flowers,
And sitting like a Queene, sees from her shady bowers,
The wanton wood-nymphs mixt with her light-footed fawns."

The highest point is to be found at *Eddisbury Hill*, which is interesting also to the archæologist, as being the site of an ancient fortress, said to have been erected by Ethelfleda, the daughter of Alfred, at the

commencement of the 10th centy., but of which only a few rough stones remain. The camp in shape is nearly oval, and contains 11 acres. It is 250 yards in breadth, and 400 in length. The E. side is irregular, and defended by a natural escarpment, but the W., accessible by a gentle slope, was defended by a ditch or double rampart. It is easy to see that Eddisbury Hill must have been of considerable importance. The Watling Street runs close by it on its way to Chester, and it is said that a line of road has been traced from hence to the rock at Beeston (Rte. 22).'

Some 3 m. to the N. are two tumuli, called respectively *Glead Hill Cob* and *Castle Cob*, and there is one called the Seven Lows, about 1½ m. to the S. of the inn. The lakes or meres from which the forest obtained its name are in a great measure dried up or drained, though some remain, such as Oakmere, and Flax Mere; but the names of Great Blake Mere and Linmere would seem to betoken that a much larger surface was once under water. Some curious old customs are mentioned in Ormerod's 'Cheshire' relative to the forest, one of which was the summons to the Hundred Court. The messenger bore a large oaken ball, perforated and slung on a leathern thong, the ends fixed on an iron bar. At the limit of the township he was met by another person, to whom he transferred the ball, and so the message was delivered throughout the district, somewhat after the fashion of the fiery cross. The pedestrian need not return to the inn the same road as he went to Eddisbury, but can follow a path by Organ Dale, and through a very picturesque and sequestered portion of the forest, regaining the road about 1½ m. from *Kelsall*. A pretty ch. was built here in 1844.

1 m. to the S. is *Kalborough Castle*, a British camp, defended by

a rampart 14 yards thick at the base, and 300 yards in diameter. This was evidently one of the lines of defence between Eddisbury and Beeston.

The botanist will find much to interest him in the neighbourhood of Delamere. The following plants have their habitat here:—*Teesdalia nudicaulis*, *Draba verna* (Oakmere), *Saponaria officinalis*, *Hypericum elodes*, *Trifolium striatum* (Eddisbury Hill), *Galium verum* (between Northwich and Delamere), *Scutellaria minor*, *Utricularia minor* (Oakmere), *Villarsia nymphaeoides*, *Alisma ranunculoides* (Kelsall), *Calamagrostis stricta* (Oakmere, the only known British locality), *Aira caryophyllaea*, *Lycopodium inundatum*, *Pilularia globulifera*.

At 33½ m. *Tarvin*, where the road from Tarporley falls in, Prince Rupert was defeated in a skirmish with Sir William Brereton in 1645. The ch., well situated at the top of the hill, has nave, chancel, side aisles and tower, and a chapel, called the Bruen chapel, which possesses a good Perp. window. The chancel has some oak carving, and a *brass* to Henry Hardware, 1584, twice Mayor of Chester. "In the 27th year of Edward I. Walter de Langton, Bishop of Coventry and Lichfield, obtained a license to impark his wood of Tervyn, contiguous to Delamere."

2 m. N. of Tarporley is *Peel Hall*, an old timber-and-plaster farmhouse.

1 m. S. is *Bruen Stapleford*, where at the time of the Reformation, lived John Bruen, a gentleman of great virtues and strong Puritan tendencies. His liberality was proverbial. Notwithstanding that he had the bringing up of his 12 brothers and sisters, besides 8 children by his first wife, 9 by his second, and 2 by his third—in all 19—he entertained once a week, in his large hall, not only the poor of his parish, but even those from Chester. His biography is told in 'A Faithful Remonstrance of the Holy Life and Happy Death of John

Bruen, Esq., by the Rev. H. Hinde, Preacher of God's Word at Bunbury.

The traces of Roman occupation are seen in the straight road between Tarvin and Chester, and in the names of Stamford Bridge, Stretton, Walton, &c.

38 m. *Chester* (Hotels: Grosvenor, Queen's) (Rte. 23).

are now centred in Capesthorpe (Rte. 13, and Bramhall (Rte. 14). On the other side the Dane is *Swettenham Hall* (Mrs. Swettenham). In the Harleian MSS. is an account of the splendid stained glass that formerly existed in this house, decorated with the arms of the Swettenhams and Mainwarings.

[A little to the l. of the road is *Brereton* (Mrs. Howard), a fine irregular old pile, built in 1586, by one of the family of that name. Inigo Jones was popularly supposed to have been the architect, but this could not have been, as he was not born till 1572, and 14 years would have scarcely sufficed to develop even his precocious genius. The family of Brereton were descended from Ralph de Brereton, in the time of the Conqueror; but not much was heard of them until 1534, when a Sir William Brereton was actively engaged in Ireland during Fitzgerald's rebellion, and was rewarded for his services by being made Lord Justice. His son, created Lord Brereton, was the builder of the mansion, the first stone of which is said to have been laid by Queen Elizabeth. The second Lord Brereton was a firm royalist, and was taken prisoner with his wife and son, at Biddulph Hall, in 1643. He was a man of scientific tastes, and was the founder of the Royal Society.

The front of the hall has wings terminating in gables, and two octagonal towers in the centre, connected at the top by a singular semicircular arch; the decorations of the Elizabethan bay windows are those of the rose and portcullis. In the interior, the dining-room has a frieze with the arms of the sovereigns of Europe, together with some curious inscriptions, of which the following is an example:—"Though thou be for thy pedegre accopted as auncient as Saturn, in wisdom as wise as Solomon, in power as mighty as

ROUTE 21.

FROM CONGLETON TO NORTHWICH BY HULME AND MIDDLEWICH.

At the turnpike just out of Congleton, the road divides—to the rt. to Middlewich, to the l. to Sandbach. *West House* (J. Pearson, Esq.). At

3 m. it skirts the finely wooded park of *Somerford*, the seat of Sir Charles Shakerley, Bart. The house is of red brick, and very prettily situated on the banks of the Dane. A little to the N. is *Somerford Booths* (C. Swettenham, Esq.). The house was built in 1612, and still retains some Elizabethan peculiarities in its gables and mullioned windows. The antiquity of this township is shown by the mention, in Domesday, of Sumreford—and by the family of Swettenham being settled here in the reign of Richard I. 5 m. rt. *Davenport Hall* (Mrs. Tippinge), the original seat of the Davenport family, a low building picturesquely placed, overlooking the Dane. Here the Davenports have been seated since the conquest, commencing with Orme de Dauneporte. But the glories of the family

[*Shropshire, &c.*]

Alexander, in wealth as rich as Croesus, or for thy beauty as Flora, yet if thou be careless of religion, and neglect the true service of the ever living God, thou art a caytife most vile and miserable."

There is also some stained glass, and formerly a painting of Queen Elizabeth, with very red hair, was to be seen; also a large window with portraits of the nine Saxon and Norman Earls, but these were moved some time ago to Aston Hall, in Warwickshire.

In the grounds of Brereton is a small pool, called *Bagmere*, the remains of a lake now drained. It was always supposed to show supernatural tokens at the decease of a Brereton, and is alluded to by Drayton:—

"That black ominous mere,
Accounted one of those that England's wonders make,
Of neighbours Blackmere named, of strangers,
Brereton's lake,
Whose property seems farre from reason's
way to stand;
For seen before his death that's owner in
the land,
She sends up stocks of trees that on the top
doe float,
By which the world her first did for a wonder
note."

Brereton Ch. has nave, chancel, and side arches, separated from the nave by four pointed arches resting on clustered pillars. The chancel is lofty, and has a good E. window. The interior contains monuments to Sir W. Brereton, 1618, and to William Smethwick and his wife Frances, 1643, who, according to the inscription, was "a devout and hospitable matron, who had lived in wedlock with him 58 years." The Smethwicks lived at *Smethwick Hall*, an old timber-and-plaster house a little to the S. of *Bagmere*. The hall was shut off by a screen from the passage, which traversed one side of the quadrangle and communicated with the offices—a common arrangement in old Cheshire houses. At Duke's

Oak Farm, to the S. of Brereton Hall, is an old oak, from which the farm is named, the trunk of which will hold six persons.]

7 m. at Church Hulme, commonly called *Holmes Chapel* (*Inn*: Swan), there is a station on the Manchester branch of the London and North-Western Railway (Rte. 13). The *Hermitage* (Capt. Swetenham) is very prettily situated on the banks of the Dane, which flows to the N. of the village. Further on (rt.) is *Cranage Hall* (L. Armistead, Esq.). The old bridge, which formerly crossed the Dane here, was built by Sir John Nedham, a judge in the reign of Henry VI. *Cotton Hall* is a timber-and-plaster farmhouse.

10½ m. *Middlewich* (*Inn*: King's Arms) was once, as implied by the terminal of the name, one of the Cheshire salt towns, though it has but little business now, the principal supplies being derived from Winsford and Northwich. The London and North-Western Rly. has a branch passing through Middlewich on its way from SANDRACH JUNC. to Northwich. There is little to see in the town, which is narrow in its streets and old fashioned in its houses. The *ch.* (of a warm New Red sandstone) has a pinnacled tower, nave, chancel, aisles, and chapels, formerly belonging to the Barons of Kinderton, and containing monuments to the Venables of Kinderton. The lover of old houses will find employment in the neighbourhood of Middlewich, which abounds with them. *Lea Hall*, 2 m. S.W., not far from Minshall Vernon Stat., was the residence of Dr. Fothergill, in 1796, who used to attend at the inn at Middlewich to prescribe once a week. He built a moat, with cock-pit and bowling-green, of which the traces are still to be seen. Charles I. is said to have once slept here. There is another

old house, dated 1616, at Kinderton, which place is supposed to be the ancient Roman station of *Condate*. In 1643 the Parliamentary forces, under Sir William Brereton, were defeated close to Middlewich by the Cavaliers under Lord Byron. Theophilus Lindsey, a celebrated Unitarian divine, was born at Middlewich in the 18th centy.

The rly. to Northwich crosses the Dane and runs parallel with the old Roman road from Northwich to Nantwich, passing *Ravencroft Hall* (E. Moss, Esq.), the old seat of the Croxtons, one of whom, Thomas Croxton, held Chester Castle for the Parliament in 1650. By the turnpike road it is a pretty walk through a well-cultivated English bit of country.

12½ m. rt. *Bostock Hall* (J. F. France, Esq.). The old house was moated, but pulled down in 1803. The original holders of this property claimed to descend from Osmerus, Lord of Bostock, in the reign of William the Conqueror. A member of this family was John de Bostock, surnamed Whetehampstead, Abbot of St. Alban's, and a celebrated chronicler of his day. An oak-tree, on Bostock Green, is said to mark the exact centre of the county.

On the other side the Dane (rt.) is *Whatecroft Hall* (G. J. Shakerley, Esq.). Passing through the pretty and well-cared-for village of Bostock, the traveller arrives at 15 m. *Davenham*. The Hall is the seat of J. H. Harper, Esq., who has erected a drinking fountain near the turnpike gate. The ch. contains chapels to the manors of Davenham, Bostock, and Leftwich. The village of *Shipbrook*, to the rt., is remarkable for having been settled by one of the Barons Vernon on his son Sir Ralph, who, from the extraordinary age of 150 to which he lived, is mentioned in law documents as "Sir Ralph the old." The road soon enters North-

wich, 16½ m. (*Inns*: Crown, Anchor), passing under the viaduct of the Cheshire Midland Rly.

ROUTE 22.

FROM CREWE TO CHESTER BY
BEESTON.

(*London & North-Western Railway*.)

Quitting the Crewe Stat. (Rte. 13), the traveller takes the branch to the l., the great highway between London, Holyhead, and Ireland. None of the Irish through trains stop at the intermediate stations between Crewe and Chester.

3½ m. *Worleston Stat.* In the neighbourhood are *Beese Heath Hall* (H. Leader, Esq.) and *Rookery Hall* (J. Court, Esq.).

6½ m. *Calverley Stat.* To l. before reaching the stat. is *Wardle Hall*, an old timber-and-plaster farmhouse, with a small portion of the moat left. To rt. of the stat. is *Calverley Hall*, a seat of the Grosvenor family. 2 m. to the N. is *Wetenhall* village, the residence of the Wetenhalls in the reign of Henry I., who appointed Adam de Wetenhall governor of Carnarvon castle. The old hall, now a farmhouse, is a curious gabled building of the date of 1630.

Between Calverley and *Beeston Stat.* (8½ m.) on rt. is *Tilston Fernal* village and *Lodge* (P. Heywood, Esq.). *Beeston (Inn*: Tollemachs Arms, a clean, comfortable little country hostelry) is a favourite attraction for Cheshire holiday makers, who come hither to make a pilgrimage to *Beeston Castle*, 1½ m. to the l., to which there is a pleasant

and delightful walk across the fields. Not only is the castle interesting in itself, but it is so beautifully placed, and in the neighbourhood of such a charming bit of country, that it is alone worth a visit to Cheshire. It is situated on a very lofty and precipitous rock of New Red sandstone, which on the S. rises regularly, though very steeply; while the N. and E. sides form a sheer cliff 366 ft. in height. From the exceeding flatness of the country round, the cliff looks all the more prominent and even grand, and, as might be expected, commands from the summit a wide panorama in almost every direction. On the N. is Chester, and the estuary of the Mersey as far as Runcorn and the Frodsham Hills; to the E. are the high grounds of Delamere Forest, with the Derbyshire and Staffordshire hills in the far distance; S. are Clent and Rowley Hills, the Wrekin, and the ranges of the Welsh mountains about Oswestry; while westward are the picturesque and wooded heights of Peckforton. The plain is dotted with churches, halls, and villages, while the smoke of the salt districts around Northwich and Winsford, of the Potteries, of the engine factories at Crewe, and the distant clouds of Manchester and the Black Country, add interest to the scene.

Beeston Castle is supposed to have been built about 1220 by Ranulph de Blundeville, the 6th Earl of Chester, after his return from Palestine; but although it must have been pretty nearly impregnable prior to the days of artillery, its history is exceedingly barren. It played a small part in the Parliamentary War, and was dismantled in 1646. Extensive as the ruins are, embracing a circumference of at least a mile, there is very little to attract the archaeologist, almost all the details being confined to the ditch that helped to make it un-

approachable from the E. and S., the bastions and connecting walls. The most striking portion is the steep, narrow-pointed gateway, which faces the W. Within the keep, on the summit, is a deep well, which has been proved to extend downwards to Beeston Brook, 366 ft. The traditions of the country naturally pointed to this well as the receptacle of vast treasures, but, as is generally the case, they have turned out to be mere shadows. The botanist will find *Saxifraga aizoides* on the ruins. Facing the castle on the W., and occupying a magnificent site on the summit of a richly wooded hill, is *Peckforton Castle*, the splendid seat of J. Tollemache, Esq., whose ancestors acquired the lands of Peckforton and Woodley by marriage with a daughter and heiress of the Wilbrahams, to whom the original grant was made by Henry VIII. The castle was built between 1842 and 1851 by the present owner, of warm red sandstone, in the Norm. style, and has been most fortunate both in situation and picturesque effect. A lofty keep or round tower crowns the summit of the hill, and is a conspicuous mark for miles around. The interior, which may be seen on application when the family is absent, is remarkable for having its walls without paper or paint, but merely of the sandstone pure and simple. The gardens are charming. So are the lanes and walks all round the grounds at the foot of the hill; and the lover of woodland scenery cannot do better than walk to *Burwardsley*, through the woods under the N. side of the hill, about 2 m. Halfway is a timber-and-plaster farmhouse called *Pennsylvania*, a very gem for a sketcher; or the walk may be extended from *Burwardsley* to the top of the Peckforton Hills, a charming breezy range, commanding all Cheshire, and back again on the S. side. The whole distance

CHESHIRE. *Route 22.—Bunbury—Tarpoley—Oulton Park.* 126

from Beeston Stat. would be from 8 to 9 m.

The archaeologist should not omit to visit *Bunbury Ch.*, 2 m. to the S.E. of the stat., a fine old building of mixed Dec. and Perp. dates. It consists of nave, chancel (the oldest part), aisles, and the three chantries or chapels of Davenport, Egerton, and Spurstow, together with a massive tower. The Egerton chapel was built by Sir Ralph Egerton in 1527, but is now somewhat ruinous. In the interior of the ch. is a monument to Sir George Beeston, an admiral, who was concerned in the defeat of the Armada, and who died at the age of 102; also to another Cheshire hero, Sir Hugh Calverley, distinguished for his bravery in the reign of Edward III. He was not only a good soldier, but a good landlord, for he founded a college at Bunbury, which was dissolved by Edward VI. A grammar-school was afterwards established by Thomas Aldersey in the reign of Elizabeth, which, under a modified form, still exists.

It owes its regeneration to the energy of the late "preacher" of Bunbury, the Rev. W. B. Garnett-Botfield, of Decker Hill, Shiffnall, and of the present headmaster, Mr. William Bailey. They originated a scheme by which the children of persons in any sphere of life could receive an excellent education on a scale of fees graduated according to their means. So well has this been carried out, that the sons of the neighbouring clergy and professional men are seen in the same school-room as the children of the villagers, while each one is specially educated for the vocation he is to enter.

[2 m. N. of Beeston is *Tarpoley (Hotel: Swan)*, an old-fashioned decayed town, on the high road between Chester and London. The ch. was restored in 1869, and the only portions of the old building now left are the tower and the

chapel in the N. aisle; the restored portion taking in the nave and aisles up to the choir, the chancel having been rebuilt some time ago. There are some interesting altar-tombs, one of which has two effigies—two females—of the name of Mary Crewe and Jane Done, the latter a member of the Done family, who held the office of Foresters and Rangers of Delamere. The visitor should see the large room in the Market Hall, adjoining the Swan, occupied by the Cheshire Hunt, which has its rendezvous at Tarpoley. It contains portraits of Sir Peter Warburton and Mr. Smith Barry, and is adorned with many a trophy of the Cheshire covers. 1½ m. N. is *Ulkinton Hall*, an old house of the 17th centy.

In the neighbourhood of the town are *Portal Lodge* (J. Brooks, Esq.), and *Arderne*, the handsome modern seat of Lord Binning.

3 m. to the N.E. is the village of *Little Budworth* and *Oulton Park*, the seat of Sir Philip de Malpas Grey Egerton, Bart., who represents the older branch of the family of Egerton.

Oulton, which was said to have been built from the designs of Sir John Vanbrugh, stands in a lovely park, adorned with a fine sheet of water, and the largest lime-trees in Cheshire. "The park is an area of about 350 acres, with a herd of 300 fallow deer, and was enclosed with a brick wall about the year 1743." The name of Sir Philip Egerton is dear to geologists for the knowledge and skill which he has brought to bear on the subject of extinct fishes, and especially those of the lias and coal formation, many specimens of which exist in his museum at Oulton.

The fine collection of pictures includes the following:—The Entombment, *Michael Angelo*; Jesse and David, *Spagnoletto*; Head of Peter, *Guido Reni*; Head of Paul, *ditto*; Martha's Feast, *Rubens* and *Breu-*

ghel; Boar-hunt, *F. Snyders*; Landscape, *Breughel*; Landing of King Charles II. at Dover, *Lingelbach*; Cupid asleep, *Jackson*; Battle sketch, *A. Cooper*; The Cat disturbed, *Sir E. Landseer*; Sir Thomas More, *Mytens* (?); Earl of Strafford, *Vandyck*; Archbishop Laud, *ditto*; Archbishop Juxon, *ditto*; Lady Castlemaine, *Sir Peter Lely*; Duke and Duchess of Buckingham, *Sir G. Kneller*; Philip Egerton, *Bomney* (?); Lady Broughton, *ditto*; Sir J. Egerton, *Sir W. Beechey*; Lady Grey Egerton, *Sir T. Lawrence*. The collection of fine arts embraces a bust and a fine marble mantelpiece by *Bertolini*, enamels, majolica ware, porcelain, glass, medals, &c.

Within the park is a monument, with some exquisite carving, to the memory of Captain Egerton, the brother of Sir Philip, who fell in India in the attack upon Ferozeshah, during the Sutlej campaign.

From Oulton it is but a short distance to Delamere Forest, in which, indeed, Oulton Park was formerly included.]

13 m. *Tattenhall Stat.* The village lies $1\frac{1}{2}$ m. to the l. On the rt., at the same distance, is *Lower Huxley Hall*, once the mosted seat of the Clive family. In Ormerod's time about one-fourth of the quadrangular building remained, and over the gateway was a figure of St. George and the Dragon and the family arms. During the siege of Chester it was garrisoned by Col. Croxton. The Huxley family flourished in the time of Edward I., and married into that of Clive.

Between Tattenhall and Waverton on l. is *Hatton*, formerly in the possession of the De Hattons, of which family the celebrated "Sir Christopher" was a member. By marriage, the estate came into the possession of the Duttons. Sir Piers Dutton (temp. Henry VIII.) rebuilt Hatton in magnificent style, but by a peti-

tion of Sir John Done to the King, he was outlawed for some misconduct.

16 m. *Waverton Stat.* A custom existed in this parish that, on the death of every rector, a mortuary fee was paid to the Archdeacon of Chester. But the claim was found so oppressive that it was abolished in 1755. The Harleian MS. contains a document permitting "the use of this place to Mr. John Tilston and the owners of his house, at Huxley, to bury, sitt, stand, or kneel in during divine service in Warton ch., 1640." 1 m. to the S.W. is *Saighton Grange*, an old manor-house belonging to the Abbots of Chester. All that is left is the gate-tower, to which a Jacobean house has been added. A little further on (rt.) is *Roulton Heath*, the scene of a battle fought in 1645, between the Royal forces under Sir Marmaduke Langdale and the Parliamentary troops, which Charles I. beheld from Chester walls. "Sir Marmaduke Langdale, being that night drawn on a heath 2 miles from Chester, had intercepted a letter from Pointz (who had marched a much shorter way, after he was informed which way the King was bound) to the commander that was before Chester, telling him that he was come to their rescue, and desiring to have some foot sent to him, to assist him against the King's horse; and the next morning he appeared, and was charged by Sir Marmaduke Langdale, and forced to retire with loss, but still kept at such a distance that the foot from before Chester might come to him. The besiegers began to draw out of the suburbs in such haste that it was believed in Chester they were upon their flight and so most of the horse and foot in the town had orders to pursue them. But the others' haste was to join with Pointz, which they finally did; and then they charged Sir Marmaduke Langdale, who, being

overpowered, was routed and put to flight, and pursued by Pointz even to the walls of Chester."—*Clarendon*. *Rouillon Hall* is the seat of Captain Currey.

Passing rt. the village of Christleton and *Christleton Hall* (Townsend Ince, Esq.), the rly. enters the general station at Chester (Rte. 23) (*Hotels*: Queen's, Grosvenor).

deley to have a chapel. The only relic of this singular custom is in the names of the Higher and Lower Rectory. The former was the birth-place (1783) of Reginald Heber, Bishop of Calcutta, who, as a boy, received his first education at the neighbouring school of Whitechurch.

Malpas was in Henry I.'s reign one of the most powerful baronies in England, in the person of Robert Fitzhugh, whose daughter and heiress Mabilla married William le Belward, and had a son surnamed David *Le Clerc*. His son Philip settled at Egerton, between Malpas and Cholmondeley, and thus commenced the noble family of which Sir Philip Malpas de Grey Egerton, of Oulton, is the elder branch; and the Ellesmere family, with the Egertons of Tatton, the younger.

ROUTE 23.

FROM WHITCHURCH TO CHESTER BY MALPAS.

This is a cross-country rte., over which the traveller will have to walk or post. Leaving Whitchurch (Rte. 12), the Shropshire border is crossed (2 m.) at the Ellesmere and Chester Canal, the road running N.W. to

5 m. *Malpas (Inn*: Red Lion), a quiet little sleepy hollow of 4 streets radiating from a common centre. There is nothing to see except the *ch.*, which is a fine building of mixed Dec. and Perp. styles, and consists of nave and aisles, chancel, and chapels, belonging to the Egerton and Cholmondeley families. These latter contain alabaster monuments to various members of these families, together with some good stained glass and oak screens. In ancient times Malpas possessed two rectors, whose signatures exist in a document, dated 1285, giving permission to the Marquis of Cholmon-

Cholmondeley Castle, the seat of the Marquis of Cholmondeley, lies about 5 m. to the N.E. of Malpas, under the range of the Peckforton hills. A younger brother of the above-named David settled here, and his son took the name of Cholmondeley on being granted manorial rights by Randal de Blundeville, Earl of Chester. The castle is a modern Norm. building, finely placed on an eminence in the park, which is of considerable extent, and adorned with 2 or 3 small lakes. The interior of the castle contains some fine pictures by Rubens, Paul Veronese, &c., and a series of portraits by Kneller, Hogarth, and Sir Joshua Reynolds.

The old hall was once a very characteristic Elizabethan building; but alterations at the commencement of the 18th centy., and so-called improvements by *Vanbrugh*, entirely altered its former appearance.

Cholmondeley was the scene of a good many hard blows in 1643-44, Royalist and Parliamentarian succeeding each other as tenants, by force, with curious regularity.

"Sunday, 30th June, 1644, the Cavaliers marched towards Cholmondeley House, with 3 or 4 pieces of ordnance and 4 cases of drakes, where 2 Nantwich companies, volunteers, guarding the great piece of ordnance, met them; and, before break of day, they planted all their great pieces within pistol-shot of the house, and about 3 or 4 in the morning, after they had surrounded them, they played upon it and shot through it many times, and they in the house shot lustily at them with their muskets. The besiegers, playing still on them with their ordnance and small shot, beat them at last out of the house into their works, where they continued their valour to the utmost, themselves being few, killing 4 or 5 more of them, and Major Pinkney, a brave commander; but being too weak to hold out any longer, about one in the afternoon they called for quarter, which was allowed; and Mr. Horton, captain of the horse, let down the drawbridge and opened the gates, when the Earl of Denbigh, Colonel Booth, and the rest entered, and took the captain and all the rest prisoners, about 36, with their arms and provisions."—*Burghall's Diary*.

To the W. of Malpas, 4 m., is *Broughton Hall* (R. Howard, Esq.), and, just across the Flintshire border, is the village of Worthenbury. *Threape Wood*, close to the border, is mentioned by old Nicholson as being formerly the great resort of those who had loved "not wisely but too well," and who procured for the population of Threape such a doubtful character that it became the abiding place of all who had reasons for keeping out of the way of the law.

From Malpas the Chester road runs N., leaving to the l. *Overton Scar*, a conspicuous hill in the undulating plain that bounds the Dee. Pass *Overton Hall* (D. Davies, Esq.), an old-fashioned house; and l., *Edge Hall* (Rev. J. Dod).

10 m. *Broxton Inn*, a convenient roadside inn, from whence the Broxton and Peckforton hills, which terminate on this side in abrupt slopes, can be explored. The pedestrian who is not too ambitious as regards grandeur of scenery, may pass a very enjoyable day on these breezy downs, and may extend his walk to Peckforton and Beeston, some 8 or 9 m. *Broxton Hall*, once a seat of that family, and subsequently of the Egertons, is now a farmhouse.

[A little to the l. of Broxton, on the road to Holt, is *Carden*, the seat of J. H. Leche, Esq. This is one of the most beautiful examples of timbered mansions in the whole county, presenting with its gable ends and Elizabethan windows a most delicious irregularity and old-fashionedness. "The grounds lie under the higher range of the Broxton hills, but command, nevertheless, a rich and extensive prospect towards Chester and the Welsh hills. On the higher parts of the estate the rocks of Carden Cliff and the woods mingle together in the most picturesque manner, and below them lies the venerable mansion-house embosomed in timber."—*Ormerod*. The Cardens or Cawardens were seated here in the time of Henry III., and the property was brought into the family of Leche by marriage with one of their heiresses. Like most other Cheshire houses in this part of the county, Carden was garrisoned for the Royalists in the Civil War, and was plundered by the Parliamentary army.

3 m. further on is the village of *Farndon*, connected by a bridge of 10 arches across the Dee with the small Welsh town of *Holt*. Notwithstanding its decayed condition, it boasts of a charter, obtained by Thomas Earl of Arundel, in 1410, which gives it the right of being governed by a mayor, two bailiffs,

and a coroner. The castle must have been a place of some strength, but only a mound and a foss now exist. Camden considered that a spot on the opposite side of the Dee was the Roman station *Castrum Leonum*.]

Continuing northward from Broxton, the traveller has on his rt. *Bolesworth Castle* (R. Barber, Esq.), and on his l. the village of Coddington and *Aldersey Hall* (T. Aldersey, Esq.), whose family is said to have been settled here since the Conquest. Leland mentions some brine springs in this neighbourhood, but none have been worked in modern times.

Handley Church contains a good brass to the Venables family; and *Calverley Hall*, a little further on (l.), is now a farmhouse, with an oak staircase and wainscoted rooms.

The turnpike-road crosses the rly. at Waverton Stat., re-crossing it again near Christleton, and entering the ancient City of

CHESTER (*Hotels*: Queen's, at the Station; Grosvenor, in the town; both first-class, but expensive). Pop. 31,110. *Post-offices* in St. John Street. The rly. stat. is of great size, and serves as a central point for the Shrewsbury, Holyhead, Crewe, Mold, Birkenhead, and Manchester lines. The amount of traffic is consequently very large, and especially at race times, when more than 25,000 people have passed through in one day. The length of the façade and platform is 1160 ft. The cost was about 230,000l., and the whole, with the adjoining Queen's Hotel, forms a very fine pile of building.

Few, if any, towns in Great Britain attract so many visitors of all classes and tastes as does this ancient city; partly from its central position on the high road between London and Ireland, and partly from the numerous and various objects of interest with which it abounds. The past and the present

are here linked together to a degree that rarely exists in this country, unless, indeed, at "old imperial York," or still imperial London. Our knowledge, however, commences when the 20th Legion, surnamed *Victrix*, lay in garrison here previous to the year 60, a fact borne out by many coins and remains discovered at different times. The Roman name of Chester was *Deva*, the city on the Dee (*Seteia Æstuarium* of Ptolemy), and it was also called *Cestriæ* and *Castra Legionis*, and, by the British, *Caer Lleon*, all names of the same signification. Holinshed considers that *Ostorius Scapula* was the founder; it is, however, certain that it gained a high reputation under the command of *Agricola*; and, while the Romans were here, much of the framework of the occupation of the county as it at present exists, and many towns, villages, and the roads leading to them (which we traverse without thinking they were Roman roads), were first established. Often a name, such as that of *Arowry* (*Apowyn*, a ploughed land), near Hanmer, or the *Striga Lane* (from *striga*, a hollow way), near the same place, indicates their former presence. When the legions withdrew from Britain, Chester soon suffered from the approach of the Saxons and Northmen; and in 607 *Ethelred*, King of Northumbria, devastated the town, and at the same time burnt the Christian monastery of *Bangor Iscoed*. Destroyed by the Danes in 894, Chester was rebuilt by *Ethelred*, King of Mercia, subsequently to which it is said that King *Edgar* made a triumphal visit, his boat being manned by 6 subject kings, "whom he (thus toucht with imperious affection of glory), sitting at the sterne, compelled to row him over Dee to St. John's." *William the Conqueror* granted Cheshire, as a county palatine, to *Hugh Lupus*, with as much land to be added to his palatinate as he could win from the Welsh. A large

portion, if not all, of the present county of Flint was thus included in it, and is the only part of Wales surveyed in Domesday Book. Eight barons were created by the Earl Palatine, of whom the 7th was Gilbert Venables, Baron of Kinderton. The descendants of this gentleman claimed to be called Barons of Kinderton as late as the last century, and were so described, when serving in Parliament, in the Journals of the House of Commons. The Earl Palatine held sway until 1237, when Henry III. united the earldom to the crown, since which time the Prince of Wales has himself been created, by patent, Earl of Chester. In the reign of Charles I. the loyal town was besieged and forced to surrender after a determined resistance by the inhabitants, who held out for the king until famine drove them to terms. The first charter was granted to Chester in 1128, by Ranulph, the 3rd Earl.

At the time of the Domesday Survey, some curious customs existed—one being, that whenever the king visited the city he claimed from every ploughherd 200 capons, one vat of ale, and one *rusca* of butter, and that if any person made bad ale he was either to pay four shillings or sit in a tumbrel or dung-cart. Chester had in those days a very considerable commerce; ships from Gascony, Spain, Ireland, and Germany, brought great quantities of wines and alaves—a very prevalent trade in those days—spices from France, and cloth from Flanders. In the charter of Henry VI., however, it is mentioned that there was a great decrease in the commerce through the choking up the channel with silt, which had driven away foreign merchants, and on this account 10*l.* was remitted from the annual rent to the king, which reduction in 1506 was increased to 80*l.* per annum.

Chester, or West Chester, as it was then called, was long a seaport

among those of chief importance in the kingdom. The Watergate was on the W. side of the city; and the Water Tower, now standing on the rising bank of a garden beneath the walls, shows where ships and vessels were moored in ancient days. It is still a port, and a considerable number of ships are built upon the river-side. Amongst others was the unfortunate *Royal Charter*, which was lost in Moelfre Bay, coast of Anglesea, in October, 1859.

The form and arrangement of the city is simple enough, four main streets intersecting each other, as was doubtless the case in its earliest construction. "It is built in the form of a quadrant, and is almost a just square; the 4 cardinal streets thereof (as I may call them) meeting in the middle of the city, at a place called the Pentise, which affordeth a pleasant prospect at once into all four."—*Fuller*. The centre of the town was marked by the *High Cross*, pulled down by the Parliamentary army in 1646.

The *Walls*, one of its most peculiar features, entirely surround the city at a height varying from 12 ft. to 40 ft., affording a very pleasant walk of nearly 2 miles, though, as the population has considerably increased, a large and important district is necessarily extramural. The entrance was by four principal *gates*—Eastgate, rebuilt in 1769 by the first Lord Grosvenor; Northgate, which was formerly used as the city prison; Bridgegate; and Watergate, rebuilt on the site of the old one. There were also supplementary *poetern gates*, viz., the *Kailyard Gate*, leading to the Cabbage Gardens, which once belonged to the Abbot of St. Werburgh; the *Shipgate*, which, says Pennant, "seems originally to have been designed for the common passage over the Dee, into the county of the Ordovices, either by means of a boat at high water, or by a ford at low, the river here

being remarkably shallow." The *Newgate*, anciently called Wolf Gate, or Pepper Gate, was the scene of a curious local incident: "In the 16th cent. the mayor of the city had his daughter, as she was playing at ball with other maidens in Pepper Street, stolen away by a young man through the same gate, wherefore he caused it to be shut up, which gave rise to the saying, 'When the daughter is stolen, shut Pepper Gate.'—*Fuller*. All these gates were confided to the guardianship of the valiant and wise heads of the noblest families, for foes threatened the city from every quarter, and vigilant watchmen ever looked abroad from its walls.

Besides the many objects of interest seen from the walls, they contain in themselves some valuable antiquarian remains, especially the *Phoenix Tower*, so called from its being marked with a Phoenix, the crest of the Painters' and Stationers' Company, the tower having been used as a chamber of business by various city guilds. The saddlers had a special tower near the cathedral, which was taken down in 1780. From the summit, as the visitor is informed by the inscription, Charles I. had the grief of seeing his army, under Sir Marmaduke Langdale, defeated at Rowton Moor (Rte. 22), Sept. 27, 1645, by the Parliamentary force under Gen. Pointz. The Ellesmere Canal flows underneath through a deep cutting in the New Red sandstone. Between the town and the Eastgate remains of Roman masonry are visible. "The walls enclose an oblong parallelogram, and most undoubtedly stand, for a large portion of their extent, on Roman foundations, as is undisputably proved by the remains of the E. gate, discovered in erecting the present arch, and some relics of masonry still existing."—*Ormerod's* 'Cheshire.'

At the N.W. angle of the walls is

the *Water Tower*, projecting some little distance from the walls, and approached by a tower known as *Bomwaldesthorpe's Tower*, from which there is an open embattled gallery, having below it a circular arch, beneath which the tide flowed previous to the embankment of the Dee. This portion of the walls was most fiercely attacked by the Parliamentary army, who bombarded it from *Brewers Hall*, a farmhouse on the opposite side of the river. The Water Tower was built in 1322 by a mason named Helpstone for 100*l.*, and still preserves the marks of the mooring place for vessels. It now contains a camera obscura and the museum of the Mechanics' Institute. The Chester and Holyhead Rly. is carried underneath this angle of the wall.

The other mural curiosities are *Morgan's Mount*, near the Northgate, a platform with a chamber underneath, as though for a sentry station. *Pemberton's Parlour*, near the Water Tower, was formerly known as the Goblins' Tower. According to the inscription, well nigh obliterated, a portion of this was repaired, together with some of the wall, in Queen Anne's reign. The *Wishing Steps* are a flight of steps between St. John's Ch. and Bridgegate. With such a panorama as is afforded by the mountains of the vale of Clwyd, in which Moel Famau is very conspicuous, the Dee, the plains of Cheshire, the distant manufacturing uplands of Mold, the hills of Beeston and Peckforton, and the ancient city for a foreground, the inhabitants may well feel pride and pleasure in their walls. Indeed, all visitors are inclined to endorse Dr. Johnson's sentiments when he observed to Miss Barnston, "I have come to Chester, Madam, I cannot tell how; and far less can I tell how to get away from it."

Perhaps the most striking features in Chester, indeed, almost unique,

and peculiar to it, are the *Rows*; according to Fuller, "a property of building peculiar to the city, being galleries, wherein the passengers go dry without coming into the streets, having steps on both sides and underneath, the fashion thereof being somewhat hard to conceive." Camden says of them: "The houses are very fair built, and along the chief streets are galleries or walking places they call rows, having shops on both sides, through which a man may walk dry from one end to the other." From their sheltered position, and the fact that the best shops are to be found in them, particularly in those of Eastgate and Bridge Streets, the visitor may expect to find the streets comparatively deserted, while all that is fashionable in Chester congregates in the Rows. They are in reality a continuous passage formed by the cutting away the fronts of the first-floor rooms for public traffic. The same kind of building may be seen in country townships in Cheshire and elsewhere, and it is nothing but a rude approximation to the mode of architecture in many towns in the north of Italy. That they may be a relic of the Roman arrangements, as is often supposed, is far from unlikely. In addition to the general old-fashioned appearance of the Rows, many of the houses show interesting examples of timber work and carving, including that particular style of ornamental plasterwork known as "pargetting," in which the patterns are raised or indented upon it. Many shops have been rebuilt in the same antique fashion, but there are still old timbered gable houses with their carving and ornaments as originally designed. One of these old *tenements* is on the S. side of Watergate Street, and has, carved on a beam, "God's Providence is mine Inheritance, 1652," alluding to the time when the plague devastated the city, the inhabitants of this house being almost

the only ones who escaped. Lower down is *Bishop Lloyd's* residence, 1604, of which the whole front is enriched with carvings of Scriptural subjects and armorial bearings. Of the former are Adam and Eve, Cain killing Abel, Susannah and the Elders, &c. Near this, again, is another ornamented house, known as the *Palace* of the *Stanley* family, 1591, occupying the site of a monastery of Black Friars. It is approached through a narrow passage, nearly opposite Trinity Ch., and is parcelled out into workmen's cottages. The *Yacht Tavern*, No. 58, was the temporary quarters of Dean Swift, who wrote on the windows the following sarcastic remarks on the cathedral body:—

"Rotten without and mouldering within,
This place and its clergy are surely akin."

In Bridge Street, opposite St. Olive's Ch., is an old house where Charles I. was lodged during the siege of Chester by the Parliamentary forces, and contains some good panel work and carving. There is also an old timber house known as the "Falcon." The Lamb Row which adjoined it, and was remarkable for its antiquity, as being the residence of the family of Holme, famous as Cheshire antiquaries, fell in 1821. In the same street are antiquities of a still earlier date, viz., an hypocaust and remains of a Roman sweating bath, which were discovered in a cellar belonging to an earthenware shop in Bridge Street. A chapel or crypt with an E. E. doorway was also discovered in 1830, on the premises of Messrs. Powell and Edwards, ironmongers, No. 152. A second crypt was cleared out in 1858, in Eastgate Street, containing a good E. E. groined roof. It is supposed to have been the basement floor of some baronial mansion.

The *Cathedral*, though not to be

compared with many others in the kingdom, is nevertheless a venerable pile, an additional appearance of age being acquired from the mouldering character of the New Red sandstone of which it is built, and which, weathering badly, gives it a peculiarly ragged outline. One of the best views of it is obtainable from the city wall. As far back as the 2nd centy. a monastery was erected here to St. Peter and St. Paul, which in the 10th centy. was called after St. Werburgh, by Ethelfleda, Countess of Mercia. St. Werburgh lies buried here:—

"In the Abbaye of Chestre she is shryned
rychely,
Pryores and lady of that holy place,
The cheyf protectryce of the said monastery,
Long before the conquest by devyne
grace."

Hugh Lupus changed the monastery into an abbey of Benedictine monks, in whose possession it remained until 1541, when the abbey of St. Werburgh became the cathedral church of the see of Chester, bestowed by Henry VIII. Its revenues at the Dissolution amounted to 1073*l.*—a large sum in those days. During the feast of St. Werburgh, a great fair was held, at which time the privilege of sanctuary was extended to every evildoer who was present at it. It happened that, on one occasion during its continuance, Earl Randal was besieged by the Welsh in Rhuddlan Castle, and, being hard pressed, sent for help to his constable at Chester, who, having no available forces, marched off to the rescue with all the vagabonds who thronged the fair, and by their appearance of superior numbers put the Welsh to flight. Simon Ripley, Abbot from 1485 to 1492, rebuilt the nave, tower, and S. transept, which had become ruinous. "This can only mean that he greatly altered the nave, the main arches of which are Dec. of the 14th centy. The arches and upper part of the central tower are

Perp., as are the clerestory and roof of the nave. The S. transept has, like the nave, Dec. piers and arches, with Perp. clerestory and roof. Nearly the whole of the exterior of the church was cased during the Perp. period; Perp. chapels were added at the end of the choir aisles, and Perp. tracery was inserted in many windows of earlier date."—*Handbook to Cathedrals.* The cathedral consists of nave with side aisles, transepts, choir, Lady chapel, and central tower, the eastern portion being E. Eng., while the remainder is Dec. with Perp. alterations and additions. The Perp. S. porch, the usual door of entry, has a parvise chamber above, lighted by double windows. The most striking feature in the interior is the exceeding length of the S. transept, which nearly equals that of the nave, and exceeds that of the choir. It also possesses side aisles, whereas the N. transept has none, and is, moreover, remarkably short. The S. transept is used as the pariah ch. of St. Oswald, having been set apart for that purpose by Earl Lupus in 1093. It has 4 bays with east and west aisles, "and resembles the nave in having an arcade of the 14th centy., with a clerestory and vaulting shaft of the 15th." The screen between the transept and the nave was built by Dean Coplestone, afterwards Bishop of Llandaff. The interior of the nave, which is 145 ft. long, is considerably marred by the absence of a stone-vaulted roof, and the substitution of a modern one, which detracts somewhat from the height. The main arcade is Dec., the capitals of the piers having Dec. foliage, and above it is a Perp. clerestory, which serves also the purpose of a triforium, as is the case in the choir at York. The nave was the work of Abbot Ripley. In the W. front is a fine Perp. window, the work of Abbot Buchenshaw. At the S.W. of the nave is the Consistory Court, occu-

pying the N.W. tower, begun on the Norm. foundation, but never finished. The aisles are partially vaulted, showing that the monks intended to complete the whole church in this manner, but were probably unable to do so from the want of funds. See on the outside of the N. aisle six sepulchral recesses with Norm. mouldings, and inside, the monument to Capt. John Moore Napier, with epitaph by his uncle, the hero of Meeanee. The choir, the restoration of which was begun by Dean Anson in 1844, and which is far more beautiful than the nave, is 78 ft. high, 125 ft. long, and contains very rich tabernacle work of the date of the 15th centy. from the organ-loft to the *Bishop's Throne*, originally the shrine of St. Werburgh. On one of the finely carved stalls is delineated the Root of Jesse, a favourite subject with ancient carvers and glass-stainers. There is a good stone screen at the back of the bishop's throne, on the upper part of which is a range of small images, supposed to represent the saints and kings of Mercia, who were connected in any way with St. Werburgh. It was restored by Canon Slade in 1846, in memory of Bishop Law. The ceiling of the choir is cold and wants colour. Nevertheless, the general view, especially from the western angles of the stalls, is fine. With the dark and very rich stall-work for a foreground, the eye ranges along the lofty main arcade, crowned by its peculiar triforium and high clerestory. The old Norm. choir was much shorter than the present one, and terminated in an apse. The general work of the choir is E. Eng., observed in the 5 bays, and E. Dec., the latter principally seen in the triforium and clerestory, the windows of which are filled with debased tracery. Notice the corbels of the vaulting shafts on the S. side, sculptured with grotesque figures, one representing Samson rending the

lion. The E. window is by *Wales*, and represents subjects connected with the Crucifixion. There is a fine reredos of mosaic by *Blomfield*, with Scriptural subjects, in 5 panels. The choir aisles originally terminated in apses, but this was altered in the 15th centy., when chapels were added instead. In the E. chapel of the N. aisle is a monument to Bishop Graham. The stained glass windows of the aisles are by *Clayton and Bell*, *Wales*, and *O'Connor*. A vestry, used as a music-school, contains a desk with elaborate 13th-centy. iron-work. The windows of the S. choir aisle are by *Hardman and Wales*. Notice the vaulting of this aisle, which contains also some sepulchral recesses with stone coffins having wheel-crosses on the end, probably by some of the abbots. An altar-tomb of the 15th centy., which retains the gilding and colour on one side, is ascribed to Henry IV., Emperor of Germany, who was obliged to abdicate in 1103. The *Lady Chapel*, of 3 bays, has some good memorial and E. E. windows. It was well restored in 1855, and its stone roof uncovered. It is singular, that, at the restoration of the chapel, it was found to have been built without any foundation whatever; but it has now been underpinned. The E. window of 5 lancets was designed by *Mr. G. G. Scott*. The roof was beautifully coloured and some medallions added by *Mr. Hudson* in 1855. Here was held the Consistory Court which condemned George Marsh to be burned at the stake in Queen Mary's day. The central tower is supported by 4 massive piers, which doubtless performed the same office in the Norm. church of Hugh Lupus. On the N. of the nave are some tombs, where the early Norm. abbots were interred. In the N. transept, which contains some fragments of the old Norm. triforium, is a curious needlework picture, representing Elymas the

Sorcerer; also the tomb of Bp. Pearson, who wrote 'The Exposition of the Creed,' 1686, with his effigy surmounted by a fine metal screen by *Skidmore*. The most interesting part of the whole edifice is the *Chapter-house*, which contains beautiful E. Eng. window-pillars, and is entered by an E. Eng. vestibule of rather continental architecture. Here are placed a number of casts and a portion of a stone coffin, discovered in 1723, and supposed to be that of Hugh Lupus, who was reinterred here by his nephew, Randal, Earl of Chester; but from the wolf's head on it and the initials, it is evidently that of Abbot Ripley. There is also a stone with a Roman inscription. The Chapter-house is a parallelogram in form, of 3 bays, and very beautiful E. Eng. architecture. In it is contained the Library, the principal curiosity of which is a MS. Bible of the 12th centy. The cloisters are of good Perp. work, and in fair preservation, with the exception of the S. side, which is wanting. "The unusual position of the cloisters and of the monastic buildings on the N. instead of the S. side of the nave, was probably owing to a grant of land having been made in that direction, while the boundary of the abbey was narrower on the S." At the S. end of the W. wall are remains of "carrels" or chambers for study. Opening from the W. is a vaulted Norm. chamber, supported by massive pillars. This apartment (which is only dimly lighted from the cloisters) is considered by some antiquaries to have been a promptuarium, or buttery, while others believe it has been an entertaining hall, where the abbots dispensed their hospitality. From the N. wall of the cloister opens out the refectory by a very graceful E. Eng. doorway. It now forms part of the King's Grammar School, and contains one of the finest specimens of lector's pulpit with staircase, that exists in

England, the only one like it being at Beaulieu in Hampshire; a doorway in the E. wall led to what was probably the dormitory. The *Abbey Gate* possesses a good Norm. arch, above which is the Bishop's Registry. Considerable alterations are now being made in the cathedral, from designs by *G. G. Scott, Esq.*, for which purpose the noble sum of 28,000*l.* has already been raised by subscription in the county. Amongst the bishops of the see of Chester were *George Coates*, in whose episcopate George Marsh 'the martyr,' was burned; *John Bridgman*, father of Sir Orlando Bridgman, Chief Baron of England; *Brian Walton*, author of the famous Polyglott Bible; *John Wilkins*, founder of the Royal Society, 1645; and *John Pearson*, author of 'The Exposition of the Creed.'

The antiquary will find in the extramural *ch. of St. John* sufficient to repay a visit, even if Chester contained nothing else. It may be reached by passing through the city wall by Newgate. Its foundation dates from Saxon times (end of 7th centy.). A local legend says that King Ethelred "was admonished to erect it on a spot where he should find a white hind." It was formerly collegiate, and a cruciform *ch.* of great magnificence, consisting of nave, transepts, choir, side aisles, and a central tower, which, however, fell in 1574, and carried with it the choir, the present chancel occupying the space under the old tower, and the E. end of the nave. The *ch.* has been since restored by *Hussey*, and the hideous pews and obstructions removed. Notice particularly the massiveness and dignity of the early Norm. pillars, 5 ft. 6 in. in diameter, which separate the nave from the aisles. Also, above them, the unique double row or triforium of arches, springing from light shafts. There are some Norm. blocked piers in the

chancel, on each side of which a chapel was added at a subsequent period. The one to the S. of the communion table contains a curious medallion, and skeleton monument. The entrance on the N. side is through a splendid Pointed doorway, close to which, but detached from the remainder of the ch., rises the belfry, a square tower of New Red sandstone, 150 ft. in height. It is worth while ascending to the summit for the sake of the view over the city and river. Outside the E. end of the ch. are the picturesque ruins of the original chancel, or Lady Chapel, the exquisite Norm. arches of which still attest its former beauty.

King Harold is said to have retired to Chester after the battle of Hastings, and dwelt in a small cell on the S. wall of this ch.-yd. It is gratifying to think that the energetic movement of the townfolk, headed by the liberality of the Marquis of Westminster, swept away the abominations that encumbered St. John's, and restored it as such a splendid example of early architecture deserves.

St. Peter's Ch. is also believed to have been founded by Ethelfleda, Countess of Mercia; it does not, however, contain much of interest. It is placed in the very centre of the city, where the 4 streets meet—"the Pentise" of Fuller—which Pennant considers to have been the site of the Roman prætorium. It is related that, on the occasion of the rebuilding of the steeple in 1479, the parson and churchwardens ate a goose at the top of it, and flung the bones into each of the 4 streets.

St. Mary's Ch., near the castle, was founded about the 12th centy. The S. aisle was built by William Troutbeck of Durham, in the 15th centy., and consequently called the Troutbeck Chapel. *St. Mary's* is remarkable for its very low tower,

which was the result of the caution of the governor of Chester Castle, that it should not command the castle yard. Inside is the monument of Thomas Gamol, Recorder of Chester, 1613, with alabaster figures of his wife, son, and daughters, holding skeletons in their hands; also an altar-tomb to Philip Oldfield of Bradwall, 1616, habited in a dress of the period. There is a painted window to the memory of those of the 23rd Fusiliers who fell in the Crimea, and one to a late rector, the Rev. W. H. Massie.

Trinity Ch., in Watergate-street, rebuilt in very good taste, 1869, contains the graves of Mathew Henry, the commentator and Nonconformist, and Farnell, the poet, Archdeacon of Clogher (died 1718), whose family was connected with Congleton, in this county. The other churches are *St. Michael's*, in Bridge-street, restored in 1850, to which is united the ch. of St. Olive's, not now used. *St. Bridget's*, is a new ch. near the castle, that superseded the ancient ch. of St. Bride. *St. Oswald's Ch.* is identical with the S. transept of the cathedral.

The *Castle*, as it at present stands, is an extensive Grecian edifice, with a Doric temple for an entrance, and not a single feature of a castle. The building which preceded it was originally a Norman (Hugh Lupus), or perhaps a Roman fortress. The wings form a military barrack, while the centre contains the assize court and county gaol. It is used for military purposes, a detachment of soldiers being usually stationed here and a large stand of arms kept, the object of a foolish Fenian raid in 1867, which was fortunately frustrated. Only one portion of the old building is left, a square tower, called *Cæsar's* or *Julius Agricola's Tower*, used as a powder magazine. Within it is a chapel with a vaulted and groined roof. From its com-

manding position on the Dee, the Castle is an important feature in Chester views.

Beyond the Castle the Dee is crossed by the *Grosvenor Bridge*, remarkable for the wide span (200 ft.) of its stone arch, the architect of which was the late *Mr. Harrison*. Across it runs the road to North Wales, and immediately on the opposite bank is a pleasant suburb, called *Curzon Park*. Both bridge and walls command a fine view of the *Roodee*, or *Roodeye*, famous in the annals of horse-racing, as being the ground on which the *Chester Cup* is annually run for. In 1540 a bell of silver, of the value of three and sixpence, or more, was annually given by the *Sadlers' Company* "to him who shall run the best on horseback." This arrangement was subsequently changed, and it was decreed that "that horse which with speede did over-runne the reste had the beste cuppe then presently delivered, and that horse which came seconde, next the firste, before the reste, had the seconde cuppe then also delivered." The course is about a mile round; and with the ancient town walls and the rising ground across the river girdling it, it forms a most beautiful amphitheatre, presenting, with the enormous masses of people gathered to see the races, the only sight capable of being compared with a Roman spectacle. But the course is too small for the stride and number of thorough-bred horses that are brought to run in particular races, and bad accidents have been of too frequent occurrence. Nevertheless there is no finer English scene than the *Roodee* at the period of the *Cup race* in May.

The other points of interest for the visitor to Chester are the *Exchange*, in *Northgate-street*, a new and exceedingly handsome building, erected in 1869 and opened by the *Prince of Wales*, and the *Music Hall*, built on the site of the ancient chapel of *St.*

Nicholas. *Mysteries* and *pageants* were at one time, as at *Shrewsbury*, a great feature in *Chester* life, and during *Whitsun week* a succession of brave sights was enacted for the delight of the spectators in the *Rows*. *Ralph Hignet*, a monk of *Chester*, composed *Mysteries* in *Latin* in 1327, and procured permission from the *Pope* to exhibit them in *England*. A thousand days of pardon were allowed by the *Pope* and forty days by the *Bp. of Chester*, to all who attended the representations. Two centuries later *Mysteries* were still acted by the trading companies of the city. "Every company had his pagiante or part, which pagiantes were a highe scaffold with 2 rowmes, a higher and a lower, upon 4 wheeles. In the lower they appeared themselves, in the higher rowmes they played, being all open on the tope, that all beholders might hear and see them. The places where they played them was in every streete. They began first at the *Abaye gates*, and when the pagiante was played, it was wheeled to the *High Cross*, before the *Mayor*, and so to every streete." *Giants* in *pasteboard* were favourite objects of representation, and a curious entry is mentioned in *Hone's 'Every Day-Book'*:—"For arsnick to put into the paste to save the giants from being eaten by the rats, one shilling and fourpence." *Mysteries* were finally abolished by the *Corporation* in 1678. The *Blue Coat School* is just outside the walls at *Northgate*. The *S. wing* is occupied by the chapel of *St. John*, commonly called *Little St. John*, founded by *Randal, Earl of Chester*, for 13 citizens, "either poor or sillie, or poor or feeble persons."

1 m. S.E. of the city, at *Boughton*, overlooking the *Dee*, is the spot where *George Marsh* the *Lancashire martyr* was burned at the stake for preaching the reformed doctrine in 1555.

Railways.—To Manchester, 40m.; Crewe, 21 m.; London, 187 m.; Birkenhead, 16 m.; Holyhead, 84 m.; Wrexham, 11 m.; Holywell, 18 m.; Llangollen, 24 m.; Shrewsbury, 42 m.; Mold, 13 m.; Bangor, 60 m.

Distances.—Beeston Castle, 10½; Carden, 11; Malpas 15; Tarporley, 10; Tarvin, 5½; Delamere Forest, 10½; Northwich, 17.

[A visit should be paid to *Eaton Hall* (3 m.), the magnificent seat of the Marquis of Westminster. It is shown to the public in June, July, and August, on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday, 10 A.M. to 2 P.M.; to foreigners only on Thursdays. Tickets are to be purchased at fixed prices in Chester, at the hotels and booksellers' shops. The proceeds go to the charities of Chester. The chief entrance is by the *Grosvenor Lodge* (a handsome building designed after St. Augustine's gateway, Canterbury), which is but a short distance from the Grosvenor Bridge. From hence a drive of 3 m. runs through the well-timbered park to the Hall. It is one of the most magnificent seats in Britain; but the style, Florid Ecclesiastical Gothic, was a mistake. It was adopted before Gothic was well understood, and although nearly a million has been expended on it, the result is not satisfactory. The present building, from designs by *Porden*, superseded an old mansion by Sir John Vanbrugh, which was pulled down in 1803. The entrance is under a fine portico on the western front, but the eastern side is the most beautiful, a cloister extending the whole length between the dining and drawing rooms, and leading to a terrace 350 ft. long.

The principal apartments are the hall, the floor of which, of variegated marble, is said to have cost 1600 guineas; the saloon, which contains some beautiful painted glass, adorned with figures and armorial bearings

of the Grosvenor family, as is also the drawing-room; the library, which occupies the whole of the S. wing; the great staircase, the tenants' hall, and the chapel, the windows of which are by *Ballantine*.

Amongst the works of art are: in the chapel—the Descent from the Cross (after Rubens), by *Weiser*; St. Michael and the Dragon (after Guido), by *Evans*. In the dining-room—the Meeting of David and Abigail, *Rubens*; the Judgment of Paris (after Rubens), by *Peters*. In the saloon—Frescoes of Spanish scenery. In the drawing-room—the Wise Men's Offering, *Rubens*; the Battle of the Boyne, *West*; Battle of La Hogue, *West*; Christ and the Woman of Samaria, *Mignard*; Antiochus and Stratonis, *P. da Cortona*.

The library contains the Corporation Charter of Chester Cathedral, by Ranulph, Earl of Chester; a copy of the Chronicles of Henry of Huntingdon; and a transcript of the record known as 'The Cheshire Domesday.'

There are also many family portraits, by *Lely* and others, and statues and busts, by *Westmacott*, &c. In a long corridor are portraits of the racehorses which have belonged to this family for more than 100 years, famous on the turf.

The grounds are of great beauty, and are partly laid out as a pinetum. In the garden is a Roman altar, found at Chester, and inscribed "Nymphis et fontibus;" also a Greek sacrificial altar, brought by the Marquis of Westminster from Delphi.

The Dee is crossed nearly opposite the village of Aldford by a light suspension-bridge, erected by the Marquis of Westminster in 1824.

Eccleston Ch. is a pretty cruciform ch., containing a painting by *Westall*, the subject being Joseph of Arimathea begging the Body of our Saviour. Ralph Lowndes, a rector of

Eccleston, in 1685, was deprived of his living for refusing the oaths, and continued a nonjuror till his death. The ch. is the burial-place of the Grosvenor family, by whom it was beautifully restored from designs by *Porden*. In old days, when salmon were plentiful in the Dee, the Rector of Eccleston had the right of obtaining every 20th fish. The Grosvenor family claims the serjeantry of the Dee, but the only privilege used is that of providing the ferry-boat and receiving the tolls. This serjeantry was originally given to Robert de Eton, from Eton Weir to Arnolds-haye (a rock opposite Chester Castle), by the service of clearing the river from all nets improperly placed there—"and to have tolle from every flote at Eton passing his weir, de prima Knycke unum denarium qui vocatur hache penny et de quilibet Knycke sequente unum quadrantem, and to have waifs and wrecks on his manor of Eton, and two still nets and two free boats on Dee."—*Harl. MSS.*

The visitor may, if he prefer, go by water from Chester to Eaton Hall, the distance from St. John's Ch. being 6 m. The charges are very moderate, and vary according to the size of the party, and consequently of the boat.

The small portion of Cheshire that lies on the west bank of the Dee can best be visited by the Great Western line to Shrewsbury, which quits the Holyhead rly. at *Saltley*, and turns abruptly to the S. The Denbighshire border is crossed at *Pulford Stat.* Here was once an abbey of Cistercians, founded by Robert Pincerna, brother of the Earl of Chester, in 1153. It had but a brief existence, for the irruptions of the Welsh made it such an unpleasant residence for the monks, that they were transferred to Dieulacress in Staffordshire. The order for removal was said to have been given in a dream to Earl Bandal Blundeville.

There are scarcely any traces of the castle of the Pulfords, the site of which is close to the ch., on the bank of the brook that divides Cheshire and Denbighshire. Between Pulford and the river is *Lache Hall*, the old seat of the Manleys, of Monksfield, which was garrisoned by Sir William Brereton, who made it his headquarters during the siege of Chester. *Dodlestons*, to the W. of Pulford, was the property of the Boydells, who had a castle here, the site of which was subsequently occupied by a house built by the Manleys. Both have long since disappeared. The ch. was given by Alan de Boydell to St. Werburgh in Chester in the reign of King John. It contains a monument to Thomas Egerton, Lord Chancellor, who lived at Dodlestons Hall in the 16th centy.

The boundaries of the parish were marked by a series of wells, which used to be cleaned out by the parishioners in their perambulations. A curious entry exists respecting the well on Dodlestons Moor, 1642—"This year the Curate of Gresford, with some of the parishioners, having come for divers yeares to Moor Well, some of them over the Moor, and some of them through Pulford parish in procession, saying that they were sent thither to claim that well to be in their pariah, and now this yeare when they were in the Moor, they saw some soldiers standing by the well, which wanted to see their fashions, on which the said Curate and his company went back again, and never came again to the well."

1½ m. to the W. of Dodlestons is *Kinnerton Hall*, an old gabled farmhouse, in Edward III.'s time held by the Boydells.

ROUTE 24.

FROM CHESTER TO WARRINGTON
BY FRODSHAM.

The *Cheshire Junction Rly.*, which is the nearest rte. from Chester to Manchester takes a north-easterly course from the general stat., having on l., 1 m., *Hoole Hall* (A. Potts, Esq.), *Hoole Bank* (P. Ewart, Esq.), and on rt. the village of *Guilden Sutton*, formerly called Golden Sutton. *Hoole Heath* was one of the three sanctuaries for criminals permitted by the Earls of Chester within the Palatinate.

2½ m. l., at *Mickle Trafford*, Sir William Brereton placed a garrison for the king during the siege of Chester, taking advantage of a pass through which the turnpike road to Frodsham runs.

On rt. is *Plemstall Ch.* It is of the date of Henry VIII. and has a nave, chancel, and N. aisle; at the E. end of which is a chapel of the Trafford family. "Adjoining the pulpit are some brilliantly coloured figures in a kneeling position, of Thomas Smyth and 'Margret hys wyf.' with 7 sons and 4 daughters." Underneath the E. window on the outside is a raised monument, the sides carved with skeletons.

5½ m. *Dunham Stat.* On l. is *Wimbold Trafford Hall* (Rev. G. Perryn) On the l. the country, hitherto flat and uninteresting, becomes broken and picturesque, with knolls and wooded escarpments. They form the western and northern boundaries of the Forest of Delamere, and as they approach Helsby and Frodsham

become developed into a fine range of abrupt hills, which are landmarks over all Cheshire and South Lancashire, and command very wide panoramic views.

At 7½ m., *HELSEY JUNC.*, a line is given off to l., which gives Warrington and Manchester the advantage of a short cut to Birkenhead, without necessitating the détour by Chester; also another, called the West Cheshire, connecting the Mersey with Northwich and the salt districts Rte. 20). *Helsby Hill*, surmounted by a camp, is the first of this series of bluffs that command the Mersey, and the pedestrian cannot do better than ascend it, and continue his excursion along the chain to Frodsham. 1 m. to the S. of Helsby is the village of *Alvanley*, which gave the title of Lord Alvanley (extinct in 1857) to the family of Arderne. Ormerod says that the Ardernes of Alvanley were the only house in the Hundred of Eddisbury who have held their estates in the direct male line for nearly six centuries. The ch. stands on the site of a chapel founded by Catherine Arderne (temp. Henry VI.); close to it stood the castle of the Alvanleys, now represented only by a trace of the moat. The whole of the scenery of the pass between Alvanley and Frodsham is highly romantic.

[From Helsby to Hooton, on the Birkenhead line, the distance is 9 m. over flat alluvial country on the banks of the Mersey.

2 m. *Ince Stat.* From the low elevation of the land, and the name of Ince (Ynys, Insch, or Inis-island), it is evident that the rocky projection on which the village is situated was once surrounded by water. The abbots and monks of St. Werburg, Chester, to whom this manor was given by Hugh Lupus, complained that in Wyrral and their

manor of Ynes, they had lost by inundations of the sea 30 carucates of land, and were daily losing more. They also laid claim to the manorial right of "wrecum maris," or seawrack, three miles further from the sea than could possibly be the case now. Indeed, for more than that distance, the soil of the valley, a yard below the surface, shows the same grey sea-sand as the ground which has been recovered from the Dee by embankment.

The old manor house of the abbots (now a farmhouse) was originally fortified and defended by a stone wall and moat, hewn out of the solid rock. The barn was probably the abbots' hall, and still contains some square headed windows within elliptical arches. The *ch.* (restored in 1854) has a very conspicuous and handsome tower. The manor, which after the Dissolution passed successively into the possession of the Cottons, the Cholmondeleys, Wynnes, and Warrings, at present rests with E. W. Yates, Esq., who resides at *Ince Hall*, a modern Italian building, close to the river side. On the l. of Ince stat. is *Elton Hall*, now a farmhouse, but once the seat of the Frodsham family. It is of the date of the 17th cent.

Thornton Hall (1 m. S.W.) was the old moated residence of the family of Le Roter. The *ch.* consists of nave, chancel, and aisles, the N. aisle being erected as a chapel by the Frodshams of Elton. It contains a piscina with trefoil arch under a canopy, and some monuments to the Gerrard family and that of the Bumburies of Stanney. One of the early rectors was Bernard Gilpin, the Reformer, who by opportunely dying from a broken leg in 1553, escaped martyrdom.

Quitting Ince stat. the rly. crosses a little tidal inlet, at the N. of which, on Stanlaw Point, is the site of the Abbey of *Stanlaw*, founded in

the 12th centy. for Cistercian monks by John, Constable of Chester. After acquiring the rectory of Rochdale from Roger de Laey, and of Blackburn and Eccles from the Earl of Lincoln, they migrated to Whalley Abbey (Rte. 32), which flourished with a grandeur which Stanlaw never reached. The Abbot of Stanlaw was one of the spiritual Barons who held under the Earls of Chester, and sat in the Parliament of that Palatinate. Although Stanlaw bore the name of "Locus Benedictus," it was not a pleasant place, and the monks had a great deal to put up with. It was low and unhealthy, often overflowed, and inaccessible at spring tides: added to which, the tower of the *ch.* fell down in 1287, while, two years afterwards, most of it was consumed by fire.

5 m. *Whitby Stat.* On rt. is the busy little port of Whitby Locks, or *Port Ellesmere*, the tidal termination of the Ellesmere Canal, which thus communicates with the Dee, and the whole inland waterway between Cheshire, Shropshire, and the Midland counties. Iron ore is imported into the surrounding districts, while iron in its manufactured state is here loaded for exportation, and a brisk business is carried on.

Whitby Hall (J. Grace, Esq.).

7 m. *Sutton Stat.*

9 m. HOOTON JUNC. (Rte. 25)]

10 m. *Frodsham Stat.* The town, a long straggling street, most picturesquely situated at the foot of Overton Hill (400 ft.), is of considerable antiquity, and the *Inn*, the Bear's Paw, has over its doorway the date 1632. Of the castle nothing is left, but the *ch.* is interesting. It is placed some distance outside the town at Overton, and consists of nave, chancel, side aisles, and tower. The nave is divided from the aisles by 3 arches, 3 pillars of which are cylindrical, and the 4th octagonal.

By the altar is a priest's stall, with trefoil head and canopy. Amongst the monuments is one to Mr. Hyde, of Cattenhall, 1715, also to a carpenter, who, we are told, had dropsy, and was tapped 58 times in 33 weeks, parting altogether with 1032 quarts of water. The *Beacon Hill* is said to have been used for signalling purposes as lately as the last centy. *Nether-ton*, at the S. end of the town, is said to have been the residence of the Nangreaves from the time of Henry VIII. to 1815, when the family became extinct. *Limosella aquatica* grows in the neighbourhood.

3 m. to the rt. of Frodsham is the village of *Aston* and *Aston Hall*, the seat of the Astons in the time of Edward III. Under a peculiar deed they had a right to their diet at Norton Priory, and among the Aston MSS. in the British Museum there is a curious document of the reign of Henry VI., in which Richard Aston complains that he had not the same allowance as his ancestors had.

Quitting Frodsham, the rly. crosses the Weaver river and canal, near its mouth, by a lofty viaduct, on the other side of which is

12 m. *Halton Stat.* On an eminence overlooking the river is the site (with very scanty traces) of *Rock Savage*, a splendid residence erected in the reign of Elizabeth by Sir J. Savage. The Cholmondeley family still acquire from it the title of Earl of Rock Savage.

[*Halton (Inn: Castle)* is a pretty red sandstone village of neat houses and villas, placed along the terraced side of Halton Hill, the summit of which is occupied by the castle and ch. There is a magnificent view from it of the whole estuary of the Mersey, a large extent of South Lancashire, Runcorn and its bridge, the Frodsham and Helsby hills,

with the Welsh mountains in the distance.

The *Castle*, although the outer wall is of great extent, has no architectural features of interest left, but before the days of artillery its situation must have made it well nigh impregnable. It was erected soon after the Conquest, by Nigel, one of the Barons of Halton (who were also Constables of Chester), to whom it was given by Hugh Lupus on condition of leading the Cheshire army against the Welsh when needed. It was a favourite hunting-seat of John of Gaunt, and was subsequently made a prison by Queen Elizabeth for the detention of recusants. During the Civil War it was garrisoned for the King and besieged and taken by Sir Wm. Brereton in 1644. It has long been in the possession of the Crown as a part of the Duchy of Lancaster, and is held on lease by the Marquis of Cholmondeley. The jurisdiction of the Honour of Halton, or Halton Fee, as it is called, is large and peculiar, having a prison, a court of record, and other privileges; and one of the customs of the manor was, that the driver of cattle crossing the common should pay a halfpenny a head to the Lord of the Fee, if his cattle took so much as bite at a thistle. This perquisite was termed *Thistle-take*. Piers Plowman speaks of the situation of Halton, but in rather dubious terms as to the honesty of the neighbourhood—

"Thoro the pass of Haultoun
Povertie might pass whith owte perill of
robbyrye."

The *ch.*, also of New Red sandstone, is placed just beneath the castle, and is a good example of the adaptation of architectural requirements to the ground on which it is built. It has been well restored. It is of E. E. date, with nave, aisles, and clerestory, and a very short chancel. There is

a good west window of stained glass of two E. E. compartments, with a rose light above. A walk of 1 m. across the fields brings the visitor to *Runcorn* (*Inns*: Royal, Wilson's), a busy port on the Mersey, which has attained its growth in connection with the canal system. Runcorn is of considerable antiquity, and a ch. and castle are said to have existed before the conquest—the latter, a fortress of Ethelfleda, situated on what is still known as the Castle Rock. The Mersey contracts here to a breadth of 400 yards, known to sailors as Runcorn Gap, and from the fact of its being fordable at low water, it no doubt gave a considerable value to Halton Castle as a fortress. But it was not till the time of the Duke of Bridgewater and his factotum, Brindley the engineer, that Runcorn became of any importance in the commercial annals of the county. Brindley selected it as the termination of the Grand Trunk Canal at the Mersey. "The entire length of the new canal from Longford Bridge to the upper part of Runcorn, nearly 28 miles in extent, was finished and opened for traffic in the year 1767, after the lapse of about 5 years from the passing of the Act. The formidable flight of locks from the level part of the canal down to the waters of the Mersey at Runcorn, were not finished for several years later, by which time the receipts derived by the Duke from the sale of his coals, and the local traffic of the undertaking, enabled him to complete them with comparatively little difficulty. Considerable delay was occasioned by the resistance of an obstinate landowner, near Runcorn, who interposed every obstacle which it was in his power to offer; but his opposition, too, was at length overcome, and the new and complete line of water communication between Manchester and Liverpool was finally opened throughout.

In a letter written from Runcorn, dated 1st May, 1773, it is stated that 'yesterday the locks were opened, and the 'Heart of Oak,' a vessel of 50 tons burthen, for Liverpool, passed through them.'—*Smiles*. To suit the requirements of the port, large warehouses and docks were built. Brindley's original proposal was to connect the Lancashire and Cheshire shores by a bridge, but this was too expensive for the Duke, and it has been left for the London and North-Western Railway Company to do it, in the shape of a work which considerably throws Brindley's plan into the shade. The direct line from London to Liverpool is given off at *PRESTON JUNC.* (Rte. 17), and crosses the river at Runcorn Gap by a fine *viaduct* and open lattice-girder bridge, 1500 ft. long and 75 ft. above the river at high water. Two massive stone piers support it, leaving three intervals of 300 ft. each, so as not to interfere with the navigation. The approaches are sustained by 97 arches. A roadway is added for the convenience of foot passengers, and altogether the Runcorn bridge may fairly take rank with similar engineering structures. By means of it the journey from London to Liverpool is now performed in between 4 and 5 hours. A large trade is carried on in the port between Liverpool and the Midland districts, and it is the principal, and almost the only route, by which the Staffordshire potteries receive their China clay and stone, which is brought to Runcorn by ship from Cornwall. With the exception of the railway and canal works, there is not much to be seen in the place. The ch. is modern, having superseded the old one in 1849, and contains a good E. window given by Sir Richard Brooke, representing the Last Supper and other incidents in the life of the Saviour. In addition to the rly. there is a ferry across the river, by which the traveller can proceed directly to

Widness. (Rte. 38). At *Weston*, 2½ m. S., are chemical works, and at *Weston Point* are the docks of the Weaver Navigation, and a lighthouse. Rail to Crewe and Liverpool, from Runcorn.]

13½ m. *Norton Stat.* On l. is *Norton Priory*, the beautiful seat of Sir Richard Brooke, Bart., a Grecian edifice built on the site of a religious house, which was founded in Stephen's reign for Canons Regular by William Fitznigell. Although originally placed at Runcorn, it was afterwards removed to Norton and enriched with many benefactions, including "two deer yearly on the Feast of the Assumption."

At the time of the dissolution the Abbot made great resistance to the sale of the manor to Sir Richard Brooke, but was promptly ordered by King Henry to be hanged for his impertinence "for the terrible example of all others hereafter." Sir William Brereton, however, respited him, and so the Abbot escaped. Like many other Cheshire mansions, Norton came in for rough treatment during the Civil Wars, having been besieged by the Royalists in 1643.

"One place above others hath been extremely assaulted. Mr. Brooke, of Norton's, a neere neighbour to the Earle Rivers, against which they brought their cannon, with many horse and foote, and fell to batter it on a Sabbath day. Mr. Brooke had eighty men in the house. We were carefull he should lacke no powder. With all other things Master Brooke furnisht them fully. A man upon his tower, with a flag in his hand, cryd them ayme, while they discharged their cannon, saying, 'Wide, my Lord, on the right hand. Now wide two yards on the left, two yards over, my Lord.' He made them swell with anger when they could not endamage the house, for they only wounded one man, lost 46 of their own and their cannonier."

Between Norton and *Daresbury Stat.* (16 m.) the line crosses the L. & N.-Western Rly. at a high level. On rt. is *Daresbury Hall* (S. B. Chadwick, Esq.) *Daresbury Chapel* contains remains of a rood-loft. Before the Mersey is crossed the two rlys. join issue, and together enter the stat. at *Warrington* (Rte. 26).

ROUTE 25.

FROM CHESTER TO BIRKENHEAD.

The short rly. which connects Chester and Birkenhead (15 m.) is an important link in the through traffic between Staffordshire, South Wales, and Liverpool. The only objection to it as a passenger route is the unpleasantness of the steam ferry transit across the Mersey, which in wet and stormy weather is anything but agreeable. Several proposals have been put forward to obviate it—such as a subway under the river and a leviathan bridge across it, and there is no doubt but that one of these schemes will, before many years, come to pass.

Quitting the general stat. at Chester, on l., is the County Lunatic Asylum.

3 m. *Mollington Stat.* Rt. is *Moston Hall* (Mrs. Massey), *Backford Hall* (E. H. Glegg, Esq.), and l. is *Mollington Hall* (J. Feilden, Esq.).

A little to the rt. of Moston is the *Butter Hill*, where the country people left their commodities for the city, when the plague was raging. The traveller is now fairly in the peninsula of *Wirrall*, that tongue of land lying between the estuaries of the *Dee* and the *Mersey*.

‘Oh! thrice happy shire, confin’d so to bee
‘Twixt two so famous floodes as *Mersey* is
and *Dee*;
Thy *Dee* upon the west from *Wales* doth
thee divide,
Thy *Mersey* upon the north from the *Lancastrian*
side.”

“From the city,” says *Camden*, “north-westward, there runneth out a *Chersonese* into the sea, inclosed on one side with the estuary of *Dee* and on the other with the river *Mersey*. We call it *Wirrall*, the *Welsh* (because it is a corner) *Kill-gwry*; this was all, heretofore, a desolate forest, and not inhabited (as the natives say): but *King Edward III.* disforested it. Now it is well furnished with towns, which are more favoured by the sea than by the soil; for the land affords them very little corn, but the water a great many fish.”

The physical geography of *Wirrall* was not the same always, as it is now. The *Hundred of Wirrall* and the *Hundred of Broxton* are said to have communicated by a valley still marked with shells and sand, which a tide a little higher than usual would cover, making the district into an island. This view is corroborated by the name of *Ince* (*Ynys*, island), and several old documents relating to the ancient shore rights.

½ m. west of *Mollington*, nearly opposite *Queensferry*, is *Shotwick*, the *ch.* of which has a fine tower, nave, chancel, north aisle, and chapel. The doorway has a *Norm.* arch.

A new *ch.* has been built at *Capenhurst*, between *Shotwick* and ½ m. *Ledsham Stat.*

[On l. ½ m., overlooking the *Flintshire*, &c.]

shire coast and the high grounds of *Northop* and *Halkin*, are *Puddington Hall* (*J. Sparrow, Esq.*) and *Burton Hall* (*J. Campbell, Esq.*). At *Burton* a hospital once flourished, but it was given by *Henry VII.* to the hospital of *St. John at Lichfield*, which still enjoys the tithes. *Dr. Wilson*, the pious *Bishop of Sodor and Man*, was born here in 1663.]

8½ m. *HOOTON JUNCT.*, with the *Helsby* line (*Rte. 24*) and with the *Parkgate* line. On rt. is *Hooton Hall* (*J. Naylor, Esq.*), a fine park celebrated for its training ground and stables. *Hooton* was once a seat of the *Stanleys*, a branch of the *Latham* family, and staunch *Catholics*. From its situation, close to the river, it was a well-known receptacle for *Popish emissaries*, who could be shipped off at a moment's notice, when necessary. *Sir Rowland Stanley's* eldest son *William* held a post of trust in *Queen Elizabeth's* army of the *Netherlands*, and was made governor of *Deventer*. But he shamefully betrayed his post and treacherously gave it up to the *Spaniards*.

[From *Hooton* a short branch runs across the peninsula to the *Dee Coast*.

1½ m. *Hadlow Road Stat.*

¼ m. *Neston Stat.* *Neston (Inn: Plough)* is a quiet little market town in which the magisterial business of *Wirrall* is mainly transacted. The *ch.* is old, but much altered from time to time. It consists of nave, aisles, chancel, and tower, and is built of warm red sandstone.

¼ m. *Parkgate (Hotel: Union)*, is a small watering-place that competes with those on the *Mersey* for *Liverpool* summer visitors. It has but few attractions, except an excellent pure air blowing over from the *Dee* and the *Welsh hills*, and very charming views of *Flintshire* and the estuary—the spot where “*Lycidas*” was shipwrecked, and

where, at low water divided by an uncertain and dangerous channel, stretch far out the sands known to modern literature by the beautiful song in the novel of 'Alton Locke'—

"Oh Mary, go and call the cattle home
Across the sands of Dee."

Seen when the tide is in, the Dee (the *Seteia* *Æstuarium* of Ptolemy) appears a magnificent river, fit for a commercial navy, which might be attracted by the riches of its shores, the coals of its immediate basin, the lead from the limestone hills of Flintshire, the ancient smelting trade, which is, as it has been, one of its prerogatives—all these might be expected to lie in its anchorages, which are, on the contrary, a solitary waste of waves. This requires a remedy which will never be efficiently applied until its waters, as far as Mostyn Deep, are confined in a ship canal.

The Dee itself, from Queenferry to Chester, was embanked in 1732, and by this means 50,000 acres reclaimed for agricultural purposes. For the tourist who has time at his disposal no walk can be more breezy or agreeable than that from Parkgate to *Hoylake*, where a train to Birkenhead may be obtained. The pedestrian will keep the high ground parallel with the shore, passing *Ashfield Hall* (R. Macfie, Esq.), *Leighton Mall* (T. Monk, Esq.), the villages of Gayton, Heswell, Thurstaston, and *West Kirby (Inns: Royal; Green Lodge)*. All these places are more or less sought after as residences by Liverpool merchants, who have a choice of marine localities such as falls to very few mercantile towns.]

10 m. *Bromborough Stat.* On rt., 1 m., is *Eastham Ferry (Hotel: Ferry, good)*, the Sunday and summer resort of Liverpool excursionists who throng thither to enjoy the shady woods and pleasant river banks. Steamers leave every hour for St.

George's Pier, 6 m. The village of *Eastham* is 1 m. S. between the *Ferry* and *Hooton*. Rt. *Bromborough Hall* (R. Rankin, Esq.).

12 m. *Spital Stat.* On rt. is a small tidal estuary called *Bromborough Pool*, utilised as a safe situation for the floating powder-magazines, which it would be imprudent to place nearer Liverpool. Here are also the works of *Price's Patent Candle Co.*, together with shipping conveniences for loading the *New Red sandstone* from the *Storeton Hill*, 1 m. l.

The geologist should pay a visit to these quarries, which are in the Keuper beds. About 130 ft. from the base of the formation, footprints of the *Rhyncosaurus* and the *Cheirotherium (Labyrinthodon)*, a huge *Batrachian* of the *Triassic* era, have been found, similar to those at *Lymn (Rte. 19)*.

13 m. *Bebbington Stat.*, which may almost be called a suburb of *Birkenhead*, from its easy access and the number of its villa residences. The same may be said of

14 m. *Rock Ferry*, or *Tranmere*, to which steamers ply from *St. George's Pier* every half hour. The views of the opposite bank of the *Mersey*, of the *Liverpool Docks*, the houses and gardens of *Toxteth*, are beautiful and peculiar, and the scene is constantly enlivened by the passage of perpetual steamers and tugs, taking vessels to and from the *Sloyme*, in which are usually anchored the *Reformatory vessel*, the *naval school*, and any ship of war which may happen to be stationed at *Liverpool*.

15 m. the terminus is reached at *Birkenhead (Monk's Ferry)* where a rly. boat crosses to *St. George's Pier* on the arrival of each train. But those who wish to see *Birkenhead* should proceed to *Gough's Hotel (good)* immediately fronting the

Woodside Ferry, from whence there is a continual stream of passengers crossing the water. The stages, booking-offices, and refreshment-rooms on this side the Ferry form an establishment of themselves, and are well worthy of notice.

Birkenhead, like Crewe, Swindon, and Wolverton inland, is essentially a place of modern growth, developed entirely by the railway system and the enormous commerce attracted to Liverpool.

Prior to the reign of Edward III. it is said to have acquired its name of Berkin or Birchen from the extensive forest which, according to tradition, extended all over Lancashire from the Ribble to the Dee, giving rise to the old rhyme that—

“From Birchen haven to Hiltre
A squirril might hop from tree to tree.”

Previous to the disforestation of the district by Edward III. “the whole of the peninsula between the Dee and the Mersey was possessed by Gherbaud, a noble Fleming; then by one Hugues d’Avranches, whose ferocity gained for him the cognomen of *Le Loup*. At that period the banks of the Mersey were so dangerous, from the existence of sandy shoals, that very little shipping sailed thence, and the shores of the Dee became the point of departure for English troops at the time when the Conquest of Ireland began to engage the thoughts of the English monarch. The peninsula of North Cheshire thus came more and more into notice, and about the year 1170 a priory was established at the spot now known as Birkenhead, for 16 monks of the Benedictine order.”—*Land We Live In*.

The priors of Birkenhead appear to have had considerable power, and sat in the parliaments of the Earls of Chester. The rights of the ferry were given to them, the charges being “for a horseman twopence,

for a man on foot one farthing, a halfpenny for a footman on market days, and a penny when he had goods or produce with him.” One of the priors incurred the accusation of extortion for raising the rate on market day to a halfpenny, when it should be only one farthing. After the dissolution of the monasteries Birkenhead became the property of the Wortley family, and subsequently changed hands a good deal, being as lately as 1818 a little insignificant village with about 50 inhabitants.

But in 1824 a great change came over the place, which has since continuously and rapidly increased, until it has attained its present size with its population of between 60,000 and 70,000 souls. It was in that year that the late Mr. Laird, a ship-builder at Liverpool, purchased of the lord of the manor a few acres of land on the borders of *Wallasey Pool*, a swampy river which emptied itself into the Mersey about 2 m. W. of Birkenhead. For this investment he paid at the rate of 4*d.* per yard—selling it again a few years afterwards to the Corporation of Liverpool for nine times its value.

This was partly owing to the success of Mr. Laird’s shipbuilding yard and partly to the favourable opinion of Telford, Stephenson, and other engineers as to the qualifications of *Wallasey Pool* for docks.

Thus began the town existence of Birkenhead, which soon appointed Commissioners to regulate its affairs and administer its finances, one of the most important of their negotiations being the purchase of the manorial rights of the *Woodside* and *Monks’ Ferry*. Still, the Corporation of Liverpool, which had bought the land round *Wallasey*, took no further action in making docks; and it was not until 1848 that Mr. Laird, with two other gentlemen, Messrs. Potter and Jack-

son, bought back the land which he had sold 17 years before, at the rate of 10s. a yard, so that the value of the land in 20 years had increased 40-fold.

Having concluded their negotiations by the purchase of 600,000 additional yards, they called in the aid of Mr. Rendel to build their docks, the main feature of which was to convert the Wallasey Pool into an enormous basin, close to its junction with the Mersey. The Act was passed in 1843, notwithstanding the determined opposition of the Liverpool Corporation, which seemed disposed to do nothing itself, or to let anybody else do it. The fear of the injury that such a vigorous rival might do to their own docks, no doubt, was the cause of the opposition; but that has long been proved to be a false alarm. The docks were opened in 1847 by Lord Morpeth, and, after going through much difficulty and a very uphill existence, were finally transferred to the Mersey Docks and Harbour Board, in 1858, thus eventually coming back again into the hands of the original owners.

A visit round the whole system of Birkenhead Docks entails a good deal of walking. "The total superficial area of the Dock Estate is 497 acres, appropriated as follows:—Water space in the floats, docks, and tidal basins, 168 acres; quays, yards, storage grounds, and land covered by buildings, 329 acres; the total lineal length of quays is about 10 miles."—*Kelly*. They consist of the *Wallasey Pool*, called the Western or *Great Float*, which is the furthest away from the town, and runs up to Poulton Bridge, near the rly. stat. to Hoylake. On the southern side of the Great Float are two other basins and two graving docks, for repairing vessels. Here also are rows of coal-staithes and tips for loading ships with steam coal, large quantities of which are brought

daily from North and South Wales by special trains. A walk round the Great Float will give the visitor a good idea of the magnitude of the coal trade between South Wales and Birkenhead. It has an area of 52 acres and a quayside of over 2 miles. Connected with it, by a long passage, is the *Eastern Float*—a fine basin of 60 acres—surrounded by a magnificent range of warehouses and sheds for storing goods.

The Eastern Float is connected by an iron swing-bridge with Seacombe, and by 5 passages with the docks outside it. Close to its entrance is a fine castellated building with a lofty and conspicuous tower, containing the hydraulic and steam machinery for opening and shutting the dock gates and sluices. The remaining docks, which are nearer Birkenhead, are the *Egerton Dock* of 4 acres, the *Morpeth Dock* of 12 acres, the *Morpeth Tidal Basin* of 7½ acres, and the *Low Water Basin* of 14 acres, which has an extensive system of sluices connected with the back water in the float for enabling the deposit to be scoured. What strikes the visitor most is the inadequacy of the present trade to fill such a colossal establishment, although there can be no doubt that time will remedy this defect.

Birkenhead being essentially a modern town, presents scarce any features of interest for the antiquary. The churches, 5 in number, are all more or less modern, though *St. Mary's* is the principal one. They are all built of New Red sandstone, of which such valuable supplies are derived from the Storeton quarries close by. The streets are well and regularly laid out, and many of the houses built with a solidity and style that few modern towns aspire to. Indeed *Hamilton Square* is one of the finest squares in the kingdom out of London. The *Market Hall* was built by Fox, Henderson, & Co., of Great Exhibition celebrity, who

have applied their system of iron and glass roof over a very large area with the happiest success. The length of the whole building is 480 ft. by 130 ft. in width. *St. Aidan's College* is in the suburb of Cloughton, and is a handsome Tudor building by *Wyatt*, accommodating 80 students, who are trained for the ministry of the Church of England.

Birkenhead Park lies to the N.W. of the town, and is one of the happiest utilizations of a swamp that it is possible to conceive. It consists of 180 acres of charming walks, flower-beds, and artificial water, laid out from designs by *Sir Joseph Paxton*, at a cost of 120,000*l.* At the extreme end of the town, overlooking the Great Float, are the *Workmen's dwellings*, a block of buildings of handsome elevation, divided by parallel avenues into five or six blocks, capable of holding 350 families, arranged on the flat system. All the domestic conveniences and sanitary arrangements are most complete throughout.

One of the most peculiar features of Birkenhead are the *street railways*, it being one of the few places in England in which Mr. Train's idea took root. They certainly are a great boon here, for the distances are so long, and the gradients so heavy, that the rails offer unusual facilities for locomotion, besides allowing the introduction of very large and roomy omnibuses. The latter run constantly from morning till night to the Park, Oxton, Cloughton, and the Hoylake rly. stat.; receiving fresh cargoes on the arrival of each steamer at the Woodside landing-stage.

Rail to Helsby Junc., 16 m.; Warrington, 27; Manchester, 49; Chester, 15; Hoylake, 8. *Steamers* to Liverpool, from Woodside Stage, every 10 minutes; from Monks' Ferry, on the arrival of trains.

Distances. Oxton, 1½ m.; Eastham, 5½; Hoylake, 8; Bidston, 3½; Leasowe, 5; Parkgate, 9; New Brighton, 3½; Egremont, 2.

[At *Bidston Hill*, 3½ m. to the W., is the *Liverpool Observatory*, established by the Dock Estate, where chronometers are sent to be regulated. It contains an equatorial of 12 feet focal length, and 8½ in. aperture, and self-regulating anemometer and barometer. From the *Light-house*, which shows a fixed white light visible 25 miles distant, a very charming view is obtained of the estuaries of the Mersey and the Dee, Liverpool, Birkenhead, Seacombe, Egremont, New Brighton, Hoylake, Flint, Mostyn, and a long expanse of Welsh mountains.

The village of *Bidston* is chiefly of interest from its description by Albert Smith, in his 'Christopher Tadpole.' The "Ring of Bells" is still in existence, and maintains its business-like character, as detailed on the signboard:—

"Walk in my friends and taste my beer and liquor,
If your pockets be well stored, you'll find it come the quicker;
But for want of that has caused both grief and sorrow,
Therefore you must pay to-day, I will trust to-morrow."

1½ m. on the sea-coast, which is here fringed by a shoal called *Mockbeggar Wharf*, is the curious old structure of *Leasowe Castle*, the residence of General the Hon. Sir E. Cust. The associations that surround it are very peculiar, the neighbourhood having from early days been celebrated for its race-course. As far back as 1593 races were held here, at which time Leasowe was built by Ferdinand, Earl of Derby, as a sporting-lodge, from whence to witness them, under the name of *Mockbeggar Hall*. The Duke of Monmouth figured in one of these races in 1683, and presented the prize which he won, to the Mayor of

Chester's daughter, whose godfather he was. The sports, which were one of the most fashionable gatherings of those times, fell into disuse about the end of the last centy. Leasowe Castle, although of Elizabethan age, has been added to in the present centy.; and it may now be described as a tall octagonal tower, with square turrets attached to its alternate faces, which terminate in gables rising above the centre of the building. The apartments possess many interesting curiosities. One is fitted up with the oak panelling of the Star Chamber, brought here from Westminster in 1834. Both it and the chimney-piece show by their decorations that they are of the age of Henry VIII. In the hall is much old oak-carving, and some banners, one of which was brought by the Duke of Wellington from Paris in 1815. It was a presentation flag by the Emperor to the National Guards of that year.

The gardens are extremely pretty, and, although devoid of timber, sufficient shelter is given by a long sea embankment to enable flowers to grow luxuriantly. This embankment runs westward for $1\frac{1}{2}$ m., and has been a work of no little importance to the security of the district. Allusion has been made before (page 147), to the forest which is said to have extended from Hilbre Island to the Ribble. Although there is not a vestige of it remaining, sufficient discoveries have been made, to show that at some time or other trees of a large calibre existed. Geologically speaking, it would seem as if the district was of the Recent era; for, in addition to the oak-trees, *Cervus elephas* and *Bos primigenius* have been dug up, and are preserved in the hall of Leasowe. It is evident, too, that the whole contour of the land is far different to what it once was, and it seems probable that the Wallasey River was formerly the outlet of an important stream, and

perhaps that of what is now the Mersey.

Further on the coast, some $3\frac{1}{2}$ m., is *Hoylake*, a favourite residence with Liverpool merchants, since the opening of the riv. (*Hotel: Royal*). The sea begins to be a little open here, and the views towards Rhyl and the Welsh mountains are very charming. It is said that a good many antiquarian remains have at different times been found—such as fibules and rings, indications perhaps of the population which existed contemporaneously with the forest and the *Bos primigenius*.

1 m. off the coast is *Hilbre Island*, marked by a telegraph, which, in the days before the electric wire became so universal, was an important link in the chain of telegraphs between Holyhead and Liverpool, by which early intimation was given to the port, of vessels coming up channel. *Statice reticulata* grows abundantly on it. From Hoylake the visitor may extend his walk to West Kirby, Heswell, and Parkgate, or return by rail to Birkenhead, passing the stations of *Meols*, *Moreton*, and *Bidston*.]

[The remaining portion of Cheshire between the Wallasey Pool and the sea is principally used as a residential district by Liverpool merchants, who have built rows of pretty villas extending the whole way to New Brighton. The first place that occurs after leaving the swing bridge, near the Eastern Float, is

Seacombe, from whence there is a steam-ferry every quarter of an hour to Prince's landing-stage. From *Egremont* boats run every half-hour. Near the latter place is *Liscard*, where there is a battery. *Liscard Hall* is the residence of H. Littledale, Esq., who has a model farm a little further on.

Wallasey possesses a new ch. in lieu of the old one which was burnt down in 1857. The situation of the village is very pretty, on a rising

ground, overlooking the Pool, the sea-coast towards Leasowe, and Bidston Hill.

New Brighton is an assemblage of marine villas and hotels, built on a sandy promontory, and commanding charming views of the Channel, the Welsh mountains, and the ever busy mouth of the Mersey. Bathing is carried on here largely, but principally by excursionists, who are not particular as to the muddiness of the water or the strength of the tidal wave. But the air is keen and fresh, and the visitor may spend many a less enjoyable day than at *New Brighton*. On the *Rock Point* is a strong battery for the protection of the river, accommodating 100 men, and armed with *Armstrong* guns. Beyond it is the *Lighthouse*, built of *Anglesea* granite, and cemented with a volcanic product from *Etna*, which becomes harder as time goes on. The light is revolving, showing alternately red and white. *Steamers* run from *New Brighton* every half-hour to *Liverpool*.]

in the disposition of its streets, the two principal of which form the great highway between *Liverpool* and *Manchester* in the one direction, *Northwich* and *Wigan* in the other. Though it is situated by no means unpicturesquely on rising ground, on the rt. bank of the *Mersey*, which here flows in a succession of curves, it has not an inviting aspect; nor is the impression lessened by a nearer inspection, the streets generally being narrow, mean, and very dirty. Still *Warrington* possesses some buildings of fine architectural merit, and one, at least, of more than ordinary interest, viz. the *Church*, which was beautifully restored in 1863, from designs of Messrs. *Francis*, and is in every way worthy of a visit. It is one of the largest pariah chs. in the diocese, and consists of nave, chancel, chapels, and aisles, the N. aisle being one of the additions at the time of the restoration. A very lofty tower with spire (281 ft.) springs from the junction of the nave and chancel. The latter is the oldest portion of the building, and underneath it is a crypt in good preservation, from whence it is said that a secret passage extended for some distance from the ch. The aisles and nave are separated by lofty pointed arches with clustered columns. The stained glass windows are very good; the three at the end are by *Edmondson*, and the others by *Gibbs*. They are chiefly memorial windows given by the Rector, the families of *Blackburn*, the *Lyons* of *Appleton*, &c. The chancel has a monument to *Dr. Percival*, with an inscription written by *Dr. Parr*. The S. aisle contains a brass to a daughter of *Colonel Wilson Patten*; an exquisite sculptured monument to *T. Wilson Patten*, died at *Naples*, 1819; and a monument to the memory of the wife of *J. Wilson Patten, Esq.* In the N. aisle (in what was the *Bewsey Chapel*) is the elaborate alabaster monument of *Lord and Lady*

ROUTE 26.

FROM WARRINGTON TO PRESTON
BY NEWTON AND WIGAN.

Warrington (Rte. 19) (*Hotel: Lion*) is one of the most ancient towns in *Lancashire*, and the most irregular

James Butler, who died 1463, the former having been foully murdered at Bewsey (see *post*). Notice the figure of the Negro, who endeavoured to save his master, although "the fact that the heroic servant was a negro is only traditional in the neighbourhood, it not being specified in the Bodleian MSS. Mr. Fitchett states that this faithful negro, as the last earthly reward that could be paid him, was interred with Sir John and Lady Butler in the family vault, in a small chapel belonging to them, in Warrington Ch., which now belongs to the Athertons of Atherton; and in which the figures of the unfortunate knight and his lady are represented in alabaster, lying on a tombstone, adorned with curious sculpture. On the lady's side of the tomb are representations of female saints, and on that of the knight is one of the Trinity, bearing saints. It is evidently to this tombstone that Pennant refers in his tour, when he states that 'Sir Thomas (Butler), I believe the last of his name, was, with his lady, murdered in his house by assassins, who in the night crossed the moat in leathern boats or coracles to perpetrate the villainy.'" The restoration of Warrington ch. cost upwards of 10,000*l.*, it having been found that much more was required for the safety of the building than was originally believed. "In the reign of Edward III. Warrington ch. was the principal church in the enlarged hundred of West Derby, which *quoad sacra* was often called the Deanery of Warrington."—*Halley*.

To the E. of the town stands the *Clergy Orphan Institution* for the daughters of clergymen, upon the site of a large tumulus, formerly known as the Mote or Moot Hill. Its origin has been ascribed by different antiquaries to Saxon, Roman, and Norman dates; but from the various

articles found in it during the progress of excavation, such as fibulae, pottery, glass, &c., together with two ancient chessmen, it is most probable that it is of Roman origin, a view corroborated by the fact that the Roman station of Veratimum existed at Wilderspool, on the Cheshire side of the river.

In Domesday Warrington is spoken of as Walintoune, in which the holders of land are "Roger, 1 carucate; Tetbald, 1½; Warren, 1; Radulf, 5; William, 2 hides and 4 carucates; Adelard, 1 hide and ½ carucate, the latter being worth 4 pounds and 10 shillings." In 1643, the town was besieged by the Parliamentary forces under Colonel Ashton, and capitulated in 5 days.

Educational establishments are numerous in Warrington, for, in addition to the Training School, there is one supported by the Educational Society, and a large Blue-coat School founded by John Allen, in 1665; also a good Museum and Library, in Bold-street.

From the earliest times of Lancashire's manufacturing reputation, Warrington has taken a lead, and especially in the production of coarse checks and linens; but at present its trade is more of a miscellaneous character, embracing iron-foundries, glass-houses, wire works, together with cotton, spinning, and powerloom weaving. Tanning, too, is largely carried on, the greater part of the leather required for army and police contracts being tanned in this town and neighbourhood. Nor must we forget the breweries, which are celebrated in Lancashire rhyme.

"Your doctors may boast of their lotions,
And ladies talk of their tea,
But I envy them none of their potions—
A glass of good stingo for me.
The doctor may swer if he please,
But my recipe never will fail,
For the physic that cures all diseases
Is a bumper of Warrington ale."

The town also had a high reputation for literature and science as well

as trade—for from its local press issued the first newspaper ever printed in Lancashire, together with the writings of Howard the philanthropist, the poems of Mrs. Barbauld, and other standard works. Amongst Warrington *worthies* were the Aikins (of which family was Mrs. Barbauld), W. Enfield, LL.D., author of the 'Speaker,' Dr. Priestley, the chemist, Dr. Percival, founder of the Manchester Literary and Philosophical Society, and author of 'Moral and Literary Dissertations,' and William Leland, who died in 1593, aged 140. The *Warrington Academy* was a famous educational establishment in the last century, and numbered among its tutors Dr. Priestley; Dr. Taylor, author of the Hebrew Concordance; Dr. Reinhold Forster, the naturalist; and the Rev. Gilbert Wakefield, editor of Virgil with notes. Connected with the town also were Litherland, inventor of the lever watch, and John M'Gowan, a baker, who wrote the satirical poems of 'The Shaver' and the 'Dialogue of Devils.' Nor must we omit from the catalogue the Lords Butler, who, says Camden, "obtained for Warrington the privilege of a market from Edward I." These Butlers, or Botelers, took their name from the office of "Bottler," which they held under Randal, Earl of Chester, in 1158, and by the marriage of Almeric Butler with Beatrice Villiers, they became possessed of the lordship of Warrington. Their residence was at *Bewsey Hall* (now a farmhouse), a beautiful old mansion, of a date rather anterior to Elizabeth, on the banks of the canal, $1\frac{1}{2}$ m. to the N.-W. of the town. A dreadful tragedy took place here, which is thus narrated in the MSS. in the Bodleian Library—"Sir John Butler, knight, was slain in his bedde, by the procurement of Lord Standley, Sir Piers Legh, and Mister William Savage joining with him in that action (corrupting his

servants), his porter setting a light in a window to give light upon the water that was about his house at Bewsey. They came over the moate in leather boates, and so to his chamber, where one of his servants, named Houlcrofte was slaine, being his chamberlain; the other basely betrayed his master—they payed him a great reward, and so coming away with him, they hanged him at a tree in Bewsey Park." This story is told at length in a well-known Lancashire ballad—

"Savage by name and nature too
Piers Leigh, that pierced all too free,
Joined with Lord Stanley and his crew
And bought the warder's treacherie.

The false porter craved reward
For treacherous guiding in the dark;
They paid him; then for his false guard
They hung him on a tree in the park."

The infant son and heir of the Butlers is said to have been saved the dreadful fate of his father by the fidelity of a negro servant, who opposed single-handed all the three murderers, whilst a nurse escaped with the child. It must be stated, however, that antiquaries are much in doubt as to the truth of the whole tale, as there are several anachronisms in it, which render it almost impossible that the persons named were engaged in it, although it is very probable that some sort of tragedy did occur here.

Henry VII. visited the Earl of Derby at Lathom, in honour of which, and for the King's greater convenience, he built the *Bridge* over the Mersey. "Whereupon he bought a piece of land of one Norris of Warrington, by which means he was privileged to . . . on the other side, and so builded a bridge at Warrington on both sides, being his own land." This bridge, indeed, was the cause of the alleged rupture between the Earl and Sir John Butler, who had previously enjoyed the privileges of the ferry. In Richard's I.'s time, however, the whole of the Mersey

ferries, from Runcorn to Thelwall, were held by the Boydells. Near the bridge stood an Augustinian Priory, which was dissolved in Henry VIII.'s time.

Orford Hall (W. Beaumont, Esq.), 1 m. N.E., is noteworthy as having been the seat of Mr. Blackburne, a celebrated naturalist. He was the second man in England to cultivate the pineapple, and the first to raise British cotton in his garden, four ounces of which were made into a dress for his wife.

Rail from Warrington.—(London and North-Western to) Wigan, 13 m.; Newton, 5½; Preston, 29; Lancaster, 50; Crewe, 24; London, 182; Manchester, 22; Liverpool, 17½; St. Helena, 8. (*Manchester, Sheffield, and Lincolnshire* to) Widnes, 6; Garston, 14; Liverpool, 17½; Lymm, 6½; Altrincham, 11; Stockport, 21. (*Cheshire Junction* to) Chester, 18; Frodsham, 8½.

Distances.—Northwich, 11 m.; Bowsey, 1½; Latchford, 1; Appleton, 2; Winwick, 3.

From Warrington the main line runs due north, passing rt. *Winwick*, the living of which is the richest but one in all England. It is supposed to have been one of the seats of the twelve Saxon chiefs, who formed their establishment in South Lancashire, prior to the formation of parishes. It is particularly associated by tradition with Oswald, King of Northumbria, who fell in battle with the Mercians in the 5th century. *St. Oswald's Well*, 1 m. to the N., is still an object of peculiar veneration in the eyes of the many Roman Catholics who inhabit this part of the country. The church, restored in 1847, and again in 1858, is a fine old building, dedicated to St. Oswald, consisting of nave, aisles, clerestory, and two chapels to the families of Legh and Gerard. The tower has a singular buttress on the

S. side, and a lofty octangular spire, which forms a conspicuous landmark. The windows of the aisles are Perp. On the gate of the Gerard chapel is some very grotesque carving, together with family crests and initials. In the chapel of Legh of Lyme, are monuments and brasses to the memory of Sir Peter Legh and his lady; on one of the windows is the eagle and child (the legend of the Stanley family), and the vestry contains an oak bench, with a series of Latham and Stanley shields. There is also a monkish inscription to St. Oswald:—

"Hic locus, Oswalde, quondam placuit tibi
valde;
Nortanhunbrord fueras rex, nuncque polorum
Regna tenes, prato passus, Marceke, voca o,
Postumus hinc a te nostri membor estu beate."

"A piece of rude sculpture on stone, resembling a hog fastened to a block by the collar, has been adduced as a proof of the antiquity of the church at Winwick, on the supposition that this was the arms of Oswald; but the heralds assign to that monarch, azure, a cross between four lions rampant, or. Superstition sees in the chained hog the resemblance of a monster of former ages which prowled over the neighbourhood, inflicting injury on man and beast, but it is probably only a rude attempt to represent the crest of the Gerards."—*Baines*.

Amongst the rectors of Winwick was Charles Herle, prolocutor of the Westminster Assembly of Divines during the Commonwealth. Winwick is famous for being the scene of two skirmishes: one in 1643, between the Parliamentary forces under Colonel Ashton and a body of Cavaliers who were routed; and again in 1648, at the pass of Winwick, between Cromwell and the Duke of Hamilton, in which the former was victorious.

Winwick Hall is the seat of the Rev. F. Hopwood, *Winwick Cottage*,

of Misses Hornby, and *Middleton Hall*, of Mrs. Comber. *Southworth Hall*, now a farmhouse (1 m. E.), was a Roman Catholic chapel in the time of Elizabeth.

Further on, the traveller passes, rt., the *Vulcan Foundry*, a large locomotive and engineering establishment, belonging to the Messrs. Tyleur.

At 5 m. EARLSTON JUNG., the main line from Liverpool to Manchester is joined, and the north train runs along it for a short distance to *Newton Stat.* The town of *Newton-le-Willows* or *Newton-in-Makerfield*, as it is formally styled, is an old-fashioned little place, with some timber houses still left in it. It was formerly a noted place for cock-fighting, and a cock-pit existed here till 1831. (*Inn*: Legh Arms). *Newton Old Hall*, now a farmhouse, is a timber- and plaster building, of the date of Elizabeth, on the rt. of the rly., which has sadly interfered with it. There are scarce any vestiges of the moat, while the ancient tumulus, with its underground passage, forms part of the rly. embankment. The house contains a chimney-piece, with the arms of Queen Elizabeth upon it. The right wing of brick-work, arranged in lozenge fashion, is of later date. In a field called *Gallows Croft*, a party of Highlanders were defeated by Cromwell's army in 1648. A tumulus, probably sepulchral, exists at *Castle Hill*, to the N. of the town. It was opened in 1843, and yielded ashes, potters' clay, and a whetstone, but no "kist-vaen."

In the neighbourhood of *Newton* is *Golborne Park* (W. J. Legh, Esq.), which formerly belonged to the families of Banastre and Langton, from whom it descended to the Fleetwoods, and was purchased from them by the Leghs. *Haydock Lodge*, the old residence of the Haydock family,

has been turned successively into a barrack and a lunatic asylum. *New Hall* is a seat of Sir R. Gerard, Bart. The sites only of some others are visible between *Newton* and *St. Helena*, as *Bruck Hall*, belonging to a family of that name, in the reign of Henry VIII., and *Peel Hall*, the moat of which is still to be seen.

In the township of *Burtonwood* is a farmhouse (*Bradley Hall*), the gateway of which contains a beam with the following inscription:—"The master dothe and mistress bothe accorde with willing mindes and grateful hearts to serve the living Lord."

The main line to the N. turns off from the Liverpool and Manchester rly. about 1 m. from *Newton*, and runs due N., through an uninteresting country to 8 m. *Golborne Stat.* The village of *Ashton-in-Makerfield* is on the l.

10 m. on l. is the site of *Bryn Hall*, now demolished. It was a singular house of quadrangular shape, and surrounded by a moat, the traces of which are still visible. *Bryn* was, in 1280, the seat of Peter de *Bryn*, from whom it passed by the marriage of his daughter to the *Gerards*. The carved work for which this house was famous, was taken to *Garnwood*, near *St. Helen's*, the present seat of the *Gerard* family, together with a celebrated relic called *Father Arrowsmith's Hand*. The former owner of the hand was a priest who suffered at *Lancaster* for his religion in the reign of *Charles I.*, though some local historians declare that, as *Father Arrowsmith* did not lead a very saintly life, it is more probable that he suffered death as a punishment for crimes committed. At all events, his hand, which was cut off on the scaffold, was supposed to confer healing powers on the sick. The *Gerards* of *Bryn* were a famous Lancashire family, one of whom fought at *Flodden*—"Sir Thomas

Jarred, that jolly knight, is joined thereunder." On the rt. of the rly. is *Abram*, which parish contains several old houses, such as *Bam-furlong*, of plaster and brick, and moated; *Abram Hall*, time of Henry VI.; *Bickershaw Hall*. The numerous collieries and engine-houses that now come into sight betoken the approach to

13 m., WIGAN JUNC., with the Manchester line, *viâ* Tyldesley (Rte. 34). Wigan (*Inn*: Royal) is a town in which the traces and traditions of a bygone day struggle curiously with the life and business of a modern manufacturing district. It is situated rather picturesquely on rising ground, on either side the little river Douglas (Dhu glas, black water)—

"Swart Duis, coming in from Wylyn with her ayds."

The oldest portion is on the N. bank, while the S. is occupied by the more modern and artizan suburb of Scoles. But the whole neighbourhood is so black with smoke and redolent of coal-tar, that few tourists ever care to stop here. The finest of the three churches is the *Parish Ch.*, the beautiful tower of which is well seen from the rly. It consists of nave, side aisles, chancel, and two chantries or chapels, to the families of Gerard and Bradshaw, or more commonly, Walmsley and Lindsay. It is a modern building, with the exception of the base of the tower and the Gerard Chapel, which are of the date of Henry VIII. The interior contains an altarpiece in tapestry, representing the death of Ananias, particularly good E. and W. windows of stained glass (the latter of 12 compartments), and (in the Lindsay Chapel) a monument, with effigies of Sir William Bradshaw, of Haigh, cross-legged and in mail-armour, and his wife Mabel; at one end of the tomb is a repre-

sentation of the lady at the foot of the cross, and at the other are the knights engaged in combat. There are also two smaller monuments to members of the Crawford and Balcarres families, and one to Dr. Hall, a former rector, and Bishop of Chester, 1662-68—a Latin inscription, written by himself, declaring that he was worthy of notice only because he was his father's son or rather shadow—

"Filius, imo umbra potius."

The 4 succeeding rectors, including Dr. John Wilkins, were also Bishops of Chester. He was one of the earliest founders of the Royal Society, and, according to Aubrey, a man "of much and deepe thinkinge, and of a working head and a prudent man as well as ingeniose." *Mab's Cross* is situated in Standish Gate, the street leading to Wigan Lane, and commemorates the story of Lady Mabel Bradshaw, thus told in the family genealogy of Haigh:—

"Sir William Bradshaghe, 2d son to Sir John, was a great traveller and a souldger, and married to Mabel, daughter and sole heire of Hugh Norris de Haghe and Blackrode.

"Of this Mabel is a story by tradition of undoubted verity, that in Sir William Bradshaghe's absence (being 10 yeares away in the wares) she married a Welch knight. Sir William returninge from the wares, came in a Palmer's habit amongst the poore to Haghe, who when she saw and congetringe that he favoured her former husband, wept, for which the kt. chasticed her, at wch Sir William went and made himselfe knowne to his tenants, in which space the kt. fled. But neare to Newton Parks Sir William overtooke him and slew him. The saide Dame Mabel was enjoyed by her confessor to doe penances by going onest every week barefout and barelegged to a crosse ner Wigan from the Haghe wilst

she lived, and is called Mabb to this day." There is, however, a discrepancy in Sir William's story, as the last of the Crusades took place before he was born; but it is possible that he might have been engaged in Edward II.'s campaign against the Scots. There is another tradition in the Harleian MSS. respecting Mabel Norreys, that she was the heiress to the manor of Blackrod, though she did not know it, and that she was discovered baking cakes in a peasant's dress by Sir William.

Haigh Hall (2½ m. N. of Wigan), the locale of this story, and the ancient seat of the Bradshaws, is now that of the Earl of Crawford and Balcarres, and once possessed, amongst other curiosities, a window on which the whole of the legend was painted. It is alluded to in the introduction to Sir Walter Scott's 'Betrothed,' but is not now in existence. The library is one of the finest private collections in England, and contains in it 50,000 volumes and many rare works. The old hall was celebrated also for its quaint and formal Flemish gardens and groves, of which an interesting and curious picture, as they existed at the beginning of the 18th centy., is still extant. The view from the hill is very fine, embracing thirteen counties, and extending even to the Isle of Man.

Wigan, though not mentioned in Domesday, had become, in the reign of Edward III., the most populous town in West Derby. When in that reign writs were directed to the mayors of the most wealthy towns of England, requiring contributions for the prosecution of the Scottish war, those of Lancashire selected as the most able to contribute were Lancaster, Preston, and Wigan. The parson of Wigan, being no common rector or vicar, was entitled to all the rights and privileges of the lord of the manor, and held his Monday market

and Easter court-leet in rivalry of the mayor's Friday market and Michaelmas court-leet. A great man he must have been in the reign of Henry IV., when in his house in London he feasted two kings and two queens with their attendants, seven hundred messes of meat scarce serving for the first dinner."—*Halley*.

The first parson of Wigan, indeed, John Mauncell, was also Provost of Beverley, Treasurer of York, Parson of Maidstone, Chief Justice of England, one of the Privy Council, Chaplain to the King, and Ambassador to Spain—a specimen of a pluralist that has seldom been equalled.

Wigan and its neighbourhood offers several objects of antiquarian interest in old houses. In the town are "*The Meadows*," of Elizabethan age; *Whitley Hall*, of the date of last centy.; *Wigan Hall*, now the rectory; and the *Manor House*, in Bishopsgate, in which Prince Charles Edward passed two days in 1745, being carefully concealed by the wife of the owner, who was in the service of the king, and fortunately absent. The *Prison*, in Millgate, has stood since the time of Henry VIII.

1 m. S. of Wigan is *Westwood* (W. G. Walmealey, Esq.), in whose grounds there is an elaborate R. C. chapel, from designs by *Pugin*. 1 m. on the Bolton road is *Ince Old Hall* (J. Walmealey, Esq.), a beautiful old timbered and gabled house, which is the scene of an interesting tale in Roby's 'Traditions of Lancashire.' *Ince Hall* is the seat of J. Gerard, Esq., and *Holt's Hall* is an old plaster-and-timber house with gables.

The early history of Wigan, which derives its name from the Saxon "wig," a fight, is associated intimately with King Arthur, some of whose battles are supposed to have been fought on the Douglas. In a

barrow, called *Hasty Knoll*, now disappeared, human bones were found in enormous quantities, and in another a great quantity of horse-shoes. A battle was fought in this same district between the Saxons and Britons, in which the latter were victorious. In 1642 Wigan was garrisoned for Charles I., but was soon taken by the Parliamentary forces. The Earl of Derby retook it again, but only for a time, for he was forced to yield it to the opposite side, who destroyed its walls and gates. In 1651 the battle of *Wigan Lane* took place—a skirmish between the Earl of Derby and Col. Lilburne—in which the former was defeated, while Lord Widdrington and Sir P. Tyldesley were slain, the latter being shot as he was getting over a hedge. A pillar was erected to his memory in *Wigan Lane*, on the spot where he fell.

Although a good deal of cotton-spinning and weaving is carried on at Wigan and its neighbourhood, its principal trade lies in its iron and coal. The Wigan Iron and Coal Company carry on extensive works for smelting iron at *Kirkless Hall*, while the celebrity of Wigan coals is of very long standing. "In Haigh, near Wiggan, in the grounds of Sir Roger Bradshaigh, there are very plentiful and profitable mines of an extraordinary coal. Besides the clear flame it yields in burning, it has been curiously polished into the appearance of black marble and formed into large candlesticks, sugar-boxes, spoons, with many other such sorts of vessels, which have been presented as curiosities, and met with very good acceptance both in London and beyond sea."—*Camden*.

The coal thus alluded to is the *cannel* coal, for which this district is renowned all over the kingdom. The *cannel* seam, which is held in such estimation for gas-making and domestic purposes, is about 3 ft. in thickness and about 600 yards deep

in the succession of the coal strata of this basin. Wigan is, however, the most valuable locality for this seam, as it thins away in every direction as from a centre. The Wigan coalfield is reckoned to contain 1,784,000,000 tons of coal, a great portion of which lies between two large and well known faults, called the *St. Catherine's* and the *Haigh Faults*. The Earl of Balcarres is one of the largest coal proprietors in the country, and many owners of property do not think it beneath their dignity to work their own mines.

The Douglas has been rendered navigable from Wigan to the Ribble by an Act passed in 1719, and large quantities of coal go to the North and Ireland by this route.

Amongst the worthies of Wigan was *Dr. John Leland*, 1691, a great Presbyterian preacher and author. His memory of books was so tenacious that he was usually called "the Walking Library."

Rail from Wigan to Manchester, 17 m. *viâ* Tyldesley; to Preston, 16 m., and the north; Newton, 7 m.; Warrington, 13 m.; Crewe, 37 m. By *Lancashire and Yorkshire* line to Liverpool, 19 m.; Ormskirk, 13 m.; Bolton, 9 m.; Rochdale, 22 m.; Bury, 16 m.; St. Helen's, 7½ m.; Chorley, 7½ m.

From Wigan the rly. runs up the valley of the Douglas, leaving the woods of Haigh on the rt., to 15½ m. *Standish Stat.*, to l. of which is *Standish village and Hall* (C. H. Standish, *esq.*), in which the *Lancashire* plot of 1694. for the dethronement of Wm. III. was concocted. In the reign of Richard I. the family of *Standish* was rewarded for their services in putting down the insurrection of *Wat Tyler*. The *ch.*, which was rebuilt in 1584 under the direction of *Richard Moodi*, a converted Franciscan monk and the first vicar, consists of nave, chancel, aisles, tower, and spire. In the interior is a recumbent figure of

the aforesaid vicar, Moodi; an alabaster effigy, with ruffs, to Sir E. Wrightington; and a monument, by Bacon, to a Liverpool merchant (1796), with a group representing Commerce and Industry. One of the pews contains the arms of the De Chisnalls, and an illegible inscription in gilt letters, purporting to be a copy of Prince Rupert's commission to Edward Chisenalle, one of the gallant defenders of Lathom House.

The will of Vicar Moodi is worth quoting. He directed the chancel to be finished out of his goods. Mr. Alexander Standish was to have his brewing utensils and things in his brewery. Should any of the legatees quarrel, they were to have nothing. In the grounds of Standish Rectory are some yew-trees, said to be 600 years old.

On the rt. of the rly., 1 m., is *Arley Hall*, an old moated house, and further on is *Adlington Hall* (J. T. Greene, Esq.).

19 m. *Coppull Stat.*, near which was *Chisnall Hall*, the residence of the family of that name. 1½ m. rt. is *Duxbury Park* (C. S. Standish, Esq.), midway between Coppull and Chorley. Of this family was Dr. Henry Standish, Provincial of the Order of Franciscan Monks at the time of the Reformation, to which he so effectually contributed, incurring thereby the direct enmity of the Popish authorities in England. He was mainly instrumental in obtaining the abrogation of the immunities of the clergy, and afterwards undertook the defence of Queen Catherine against her husband Henry VIII. Later on lived Thomas Standish, a member of the Long Parliament, while his son Thomas was a zealous Royalist, and was killed while fighting under Lord Strange at the siege of Manchester. Another member of this Duxbury family was Capt. Miles Standish, "the fighting man of the pilgrim

fathers," who escorted them to America.

"He was a gentleman born, could trace his pedigree plainly
Beck to Hugh Standish, of Duxbury Hall,
in Lancashire, England,
Who was the son of Ralph, and the grand-
son of Thurston de Standish,
Heir unto vast estates, of which he was
basely defrauded."—*Longfellow.*

21 m. rt. *Gillibrand Hall* (H. Woods, Esq.), and *Astley Hall* (R. Towneley Parker, Esq.); 1. *Euxton Hall* (W. M. Anderton, Esq.). The old house was erected in the time of Henry VIII., and the present one has a hall and staircase finely decorated by *Concilio*. The Andertons have held Euxton for many generations, and in 1650 Charles II. lodged here, the then owner, Sir Hugh Anderton, being a prisoner. He is described as being "a bloody Papist, who, when Prince Rupert was at Bolton, boasted much of being in blood to the elbows in that cruel massacre."

At EUXTON JUNC., 23 m., the Bolton and Chorley line runs in at

24½ m. *Leyland Stat.*, near which are *Leyland Hall*, now a farmhouse of Elizabethan date, and *Worden Hall*, the seat of the Miss Faringtons.* The ch. has a fine pinnacled and battlemented tower, nave, chancel, and aisles, of singular character, like passages, together with a chapel to the Farington family, a very ancient stock, which dates its descent from Hugo de Meolis, in the time of the Conqueror. The stained glass windows are by Clayton and Bell, and *Warrington*. The chancel contains a piscina, sedilia, an ambry, the works of Foxe and Jewell in and black letter, chained to one of the windows. Until 1816 there was a division of the sexes in the ch., an arrangement which still holds good in

* This name is sometimes written as *farington*, which was the old way of writing many names in the north. When printed, however, the capital F should be used.

the free seats. During the progress of some alterations in 1852, portions of an earlier ch. with Norm. details were found. In the churchyard is a grammar school, endowed by Queen Elizabeth with 3*l.* 18*s.* a year, and in the village are some almshouses built by the Faringtons. "The first recorded mention of Leyland is in the time of Edward the Confessor. It was a royalty under the King, which secured the people better treatment than those living under the Thanets. The King had here a hall and court of justice, where disputes were submitted periodically to a jury of freemen."

About 1 m. W. of Leyland is the district of *Ulmes Walton*, where is a new E. Eng. ch., built by Mrs. Farington, whose monument of Carrara marble by *Hutchison* should be seen. Amongst the industries of Leyland is a manufactory of gold thread.

26 m. *Farington Stat.* 1½ m. on rt. is *Cuerden Park*, the beautiful seat of R. Towneley Parker, Esq. A house was erected here by Christopher Banastre, of Banke, in 1660, one of whose coheireesses brought the property by marriage into the Parkers. The present mansion had been modernised by *Wyatt*. At *Cuerden* was born *Dr. Richard Kuerden*, a celebrated antiquary, and author of the great topographical work '*Brigantia Lancastriensis restaurata*.'

At Farington the line from Blackburn to Ormakirk crosses the London and North-Western Rly., and the traveller soon reaches the fertile vale of the Ribble, which is crossed by a lofty viaduct, to 29 m. *Preston Stat.* (Rte. 41). *Hotels*: Victoria; Bull,

ROUTE 27.

FROM STOCKPORT TO MANCHESTER.

Quitting the high level stat. at Stockport (Rte. 13), the traveller gains a curious and interesting view of the town as he glides over the lofty viaduct that spans the valley of the Mersey and connects Lancashire and Cheshire. At the Lancashire end is

½ m. *HEATON NORRIS JUNC.*, a suburb of Stockport, from whence a branch is given on rt. to Ashton and Staley Bridge.

1½ m. *Heaton Chapel Stat.* The village (on rt.) has a plain chapel of ease.

3 m. *Levenshulme Stat.* The turnpike-road was formerly crossed near this point by an old earthwork, called the *Nico Ditch*; but building operations have pretty well obliterated all such remains.

Passing by a series of viaducts through Longsight and Ardwick, on a level with the forest of chimneys and over innumerable alleys and courts, the traveller reaches the London Road Stat., almost in the centre of the city of *Manchester*. Though not possessing very much to delight the eyes or the senses, it is nevertheless one of the most interesting places in the kingdom; for while it can boast of a history of great antiquity, it is essentially modern in character, and in its enormous growth is only to be

equalled by London itself. The secret of this growth is the factory system, of which Manchester is the headquarters and the metropolis, and the visitor will at once perceive that everything in it depends, directly or indirectly, upon cotton and its subsidiary trades, which have created a population peculiar in its habits, manners, and ways of thought. "What Art was to the ancient world, Science is to the modern—the distinctive faculty. In the minds of men the useful has succeeded to the beautiful. Instead of the city of the Violet Crown, a Lancashire village has expanded into a mighty region of factories and warehouses. Yet, rightly understood, Manchester is as great a human exploit as Athens."—*D'Israeli.*

Hotels.—Manchester is fairly supplied with hotel accommodation, the principal being the Queen's (good, but expensive), Royal, and Albion, all facing the Infirmary; Waterloo, near the London Road Stat. (very comfortable); Palatine, close to the Victoria Stat. (comfortable, but noisy); Clarence, in Spring Gardens. Amongst the second-class hotels may be mentioned the Star, in Deansgate; the Brunswick, the Mosley Arms, and the White Bear, in Piccadilly; the Post Office Hotel, in Brown Street; Cathedral Hotel (in the Cathedral Yard); the Trevelyan (temperance), in Corporation Street.

The *Post Office* is in Brown Street.

Railway Stations.—*London Road*, the point of departure for the London and North-Western trains to Crewe and London (Euston); the Manchester, Sheffield, and Lincolnshire trains to Sheffield and Hull; the Great Northern trains for Peterborough and London (King's Cross); the Midland trains for Buxton, Derby, and London (St. Pancras).

The *Victoria Stat.* serves for Lon-

don and North-Western trains for Liverpool, Bolton, Wigan, and the North; also to Huddersfield and Leeds; Great Western trains to Chester, Shrewsbury, and South Wales; Lancashire and Yorkshire trains to Ashton, Bolton, Preston, Liverpool, Rochdale, Halifax, Burnley, &c.

The *Oxford Road Stat.* is the passenger terminus of the line to Altrincham, Warrington, Liverpool (on the S. bank of the Mersey), and Northwich. There are also several smaller stations to accommodate the residents in the suburbs, such as Longsight, Ardwick, Ordsall Lane, and Weaste Lane, on the London and North-Western system; Gorton, Ashbury, and Fairfield, on the Manchester, Sheffield, and Lincolnshire line; Salford, Pendleton, Oldfield Road, Miles Platting, and Newton Heath, on the Lancashire and Yorkshire; Cornbrook and Old Trafford, on the Cheshire line.

Notwithstanding its great size and apparent regularity, Manchester is very deficient in open spaces and symmetry of arrangement. The *old town*, or parish, lies altogether on the E. bank of the Irwell, occupying a considerable plain, but the progress of time has brought with it such an increase of buildings that a great number of adjoining townships have been absorbed, and have contributed to form with Manchester proper a vast city of 15 or 16 miles in circumference. From the Exchange as the centre, the busy thoroughfare of Market Street runs nearly E. and W., terminating in an irregular square, in the centre of which is the Infirmary. Piccadilly is a continuation of Market Street, and leads into the London Road, which runs S.E. to Ardwick. Many of the best streets in Manchester strike off from the Infirmary Square, such as the Oldham Road, Mosley, Portland, and George Streets. From the Ex-

change a great thoroughfare runs due N. by the river bank to the Cathedral and Victoria Station, thence continuing by a long suburb road to Broughton and Bury. Between the Oldham and Broughton roads two other main streets start from the centre of the town, both running more or less in a northerly direction. 1. To Cheetham Hill; 2. To Rochdale, through Harpurhey; both roads uniting eventually at Middleton (Rte. 29). At the W. of the town we have the Irwell, crossed by several bridges and uniting Manchester proper with Salford, just as Southwark forms part of London. Across the Albert Bridge runs the main thoroughfare to Pendleton and Bolton, while, keeping pretty close to the E. bank of the river, is the old and densely-populated district of Deansgate, which eventually terminates in two great high-roads to Liverpool and Chester. On the S.W. is the Stretford Road, connecting Manchester with that village and Cheshire generally; while Oxford Road is an important artery leading to Cheadle and the villages on the Cheshire border.

As in most commercial towns of the present day, few people live in Manchester who can afford to live out of it, particularly as the omnibus and railway communication to the suburbs is very complete and frequent. The result, is that at distances varying from 2 to 5 miles from the Exchange, are vast numbers of villas and residences of more or less taste, but nearly all evincing no lack of wealth. To the N., occupying elevated ground, and lining the road from Manchester to Bury, are Higher and Lower Broughton, with the village of Prestwich. Further E. is Cheetham Hill, succeeded by Crumpsall and Harpurhey. The N.E. suburb is of a poor class, partly because the country is bleak and uninviting, and partly because the factory portion of the town princi-

pally lies here, making the district of the Oldham Road and Ancoats anything but a pleasant one. Coming round to the E. are the suburbs of Ardwick and Longsight, succeeded on the S. by Chorlton-on-Medlock, Didsbury, Rusholme, Withington and Whalley Range. Hulme and Stretford lie to the S.W., and Old Trafford fills up the space to the banks of the Irwell. On the other side of the river we again come to rising ground, occupied by the villages of Eccles, Swinton, and Pendleton, separated from Manchester by the crowded borough of Salford. It will be seen, therefore, that the area of the city is being continually enlarged by the ever-extending fringe of suburb residences. *Population*, including Salford, in 1867, 477,836; 1868, 483,997.

The *Irwell* is the great natural feature of Manchester, and if unspoiled by the factories and buildings on its banks, and by the inky blackness of its water, would be an exceedingly pretty river. Indeed, with all its disadvantages, the scenery of the Irwell, as it flows at the foot of the Peel Park and under the heights of Broughton round the race-course, is full of beauty; and even the portion which divides Salford and Manchester, if seen at night when all the factories are lighted up, has some very striking effects. After a good many windings from Kersall Moor to the Cathedral, it has a tolerably straight course to Old Trafford, from whence it takes a sharp turn to the W. in the direction of Worsley and Liverpool, falling into the Mersey not far from Flixton. It is joined by three small tributaries in its course through the city:—

1. The *Irk*, a streamlet of Stygian blackness, which descends from the high grounds beyond Middleton and enters Manchester through the vale between Cheetham Hill and Harpurhey. After being bridged, tunneled, and built over every few yards,

it at length ceases its melancholy existence by joining the Irwell close to the Victoria Stat. On the banks of the Irk was formerly the lord's mill, to which the burgesses were obliged to carry their corn to be ground, and near it was the lord's oven, where their bread was obliged to be baked. 2. The *Medlock* is a broader, though not a whit more inviting stream, and enters the city from the N.E., passing through the districts of Ancoats, Oxford Road, and Knott Mill, where it joins the Irwell. 3. The *Cornbrook* is a very little stream which rises near Greenheys, and after skirting the S. of the town comes to an end close to the Pomona Gardens. These Acherontian streams very seldom appear to the light of day, and the stranger carelessly crossing them, where visible, would be puzzled to know whence they came and where they were flowing. Their extremely black colour is owing to the dye-works in the outskirts of Manchester, which have utilised the rivulets in their early course. Once upon a time fish existed in all these streams, for it is recorded that the fisheries were valued at an annual rental of two shillings for the Irwell, and twelve pence for the Irk and Medlock.

The Irwell is bridged over between Broughton and Trafford no less than 8 times. The *Victoria Bridge*, of one arch of 100 feet span, has superseded the old Salford Bridge, which had a chapel on it, erected by Thomas del Booth, subsequently made a dungeon. The *Blackfriars Bridge* was originally a wooden bridge, put up by a company of actors to cross over to their theatre in Salford. The *Albert Bridge*, near the New Bailey was built in 1864. The *Regent Road Bridge* connects Hulme and Salford. The *Wellington Bridge* is the latest of them all, and unites Salford with Strangeways. Above this are the *Springfield Lane* and the *Broughton Bridges*, the latter being a suspen-

sion bridge. There is also another at Broughton, at which a toll is exacted.

Notwithstanding the air of modernness which characterises the greater portion of Manchester, few cities in the kingdom can show such an unbroken pedigree from the very earliest times, in which the Sistuntii, and afterwards the Brigantes, are said to have had a British fortress on what is now *Castlefield*. This fortress was taken possession of by the Romans in the reign of Agricola, who named the spot Mancunium or Mamucium. A small portion of the wall existed as lately as 1832, at the back of Bridgewater Street, and considerable remains were visible when Stukely wrote (1700), and Horsley 30 years later; while at various times (and principally during the formation of the Bridgewater Canal) Roman remains have been brought to light, consisting of dishes, coins, busts, pottery, with gold and bronze bulls. The coins were of the date of Vespasian, Antoninus Pius, Trajan, Hadrian, Nero, Domitian, Vitellius, and Constantine. The Saxon history of Mameceaster takes us rather into legendary times, contemporaneous with the Round Table and Arthur's battles on the Douglas. The principal episode is the overthrow of the giant Tarquin by Sir Lancelot of the Lake:—

"Within this ancient British land
In Lancashire, I understand,
Near Manchester there lived a knight of
fame
Of a prodigious strength and might,
Who vanquished many a worthy knight,
A giant great—and Tarquin was his name."

But little is really known of it in these days, except that in the reign of Edwin (620) it became the scene of the missionary labours of St. Paulinus, was made a parish, and soon possessed two churches. The principal institutions of the town next to the churches were its two mills, one of which (Knott Mill) is said to have been so called from a

visit paid by Canute the Dane. Salford, too, is mentioned in Domesday, although as the least important of the five Lancashire Hundreds.

"Previous to Edward III.'s reign Manchester consisted of two towns, the one Aldport, or the old port on the Irwell, near the camp-field or site of Mancunium, and the other situated near the confluence of the Irk with the Irwell. In no other place in Lancashire were there, at that time, two churches so near each other as these Manchester churches."

—Halley.

It is needless to trace the various families who obtained power in Manchester, until we come to the 15th centy., in which it became of very considerable ecclesiastical importance under the fostering care of the Gresleys and De la Warres, the latter of whom owned the manorial rights of a college and collegiate church, now the cathedral. A hundred years later Manchester is thus described by Leland:—"It stondith on south side of the Irwell river, in Salfordshire, and is the fairest, best builded, quickliest and most populous townne of al Lancestreshire, yet is in hit but one paroch chirch, but is a college and almost throughowt double ilyed ex quadrato lapide durissimo, whereof a goodly quarre is harde by the townne. There be divers stone bridges in the townne, but the best of III. arches is over Irwell. On this bridge is a praty little chapel." The trade of Manchester soon became so important that the right of sanctuary was taken away from it—"because the sanctuary men are prejudicial to the wealth, credit, great occupyings, and good order of the said town, by occasioning idleness, unlawful games, unthriftiness, and other enormities." In 1547 Manchester College was dissolved, but was refounded in Mary's reign, and the town soon afterwards became the head-quarters of the Commission established by Elizabeth

for advancing the reformed religion. Towards the end of the centy. great improvements were made in civilization. "Domestic comforts were enlarged. At the houses of public accommodation to which travellers resorted, clean linen was placed upon their beds and a separate room was assigned to each, at the cost of a penny a night if he came to the inn unattended by a horse, and without cost if he travelled on horseback."—Baines.

Manchester took a rather prominent part in the Civil Wars, having been garrisoned in 1642 by the Parliamentary forces, under Colonel Rosworm, against those of Charles I., under Lord Strange. But the fortifications had been put in such an able state by the commander that the besieged were able to hold their own, and 10 years later the works were dismantled. About this date the town had much increased, and its condition is thus graphically described by Macaulay:—"It was mentioned by the writers of the time of Charles II. as a busy and opulent place. Cotton had, during half a centy., been brought hither from Cyprus and Smyrna; but the manufacture was in its infancy. That wonderful emporium, which in population and wealth far surpasses capitals so much renowned as Berlin, Madrid, and Lisbon, was then a mean and ill-built market town, containing under 6000 people. It had then not a single press. It now supports a hundred printing establishments. It then had not a single coach. It now supports 20 coachmakers." Dr. Aiken, writing at the end of the 17th centy., gives a description of the manners of the place. The manufacturers were always in their warehouses by 6 o'clock in the morning and breakfasted at 7, the meal consisting of a large dish of water porridge poured into a bowl, and another of milk, into which the masters and apprentices dipped their spoons with-

out ceremony. Dinner was at 12. At 2 the ladies went out visiting, and always attended service in the collegiate church at 4. The next episode in the history of the town is the rebellion of 1715, in which the clergy mostly took the side of the Pretender; and again, in 1746, when it was visited by Prince Charles Edward and his army. During their stay the Prince inhabited a house in Market-street Lane, while his secretary, Lord George Murray, took up his abode at the Dog Inn, in Deansgate, for the purpose of giving commissions to the French officers. A body of men, known as the Manchester regiment, was enrolled, and commanded by Col. Francis Townley, who had, amongst other officers, a Lancashire gentleman named Dawson. The regiment surrendered at Carlisle to the Duke of Cumberland, and the Colonel, with eight other officers, was tried in London, found guilty, and beheaded on Kennington Common. These proceedings, which were considered to be harsh and infamous on the part of the Duke, are commemorated in a couple of local ballads, entitled 'Jemmy Dawson' and 'Townley's Ghost.' The former, written by Shenstone, touchingly describes how Dawson's execution was witnessed by his intended bride, who expired, broken hearted, before she left the spot:—

"The dismal scene was o'er and past,
The lover's mournful hearse retired,
The maid drew back her languid head,
And, sighing forth his name, expired."

The popular feeling in this part of the country was entirely opposed to the Government, and drew forth a curious and witty epigram from Mr. Byrom, a well-known Manchester resident:—

"God bless the King, I mean, our faith's
defender!
God bless (no harm in blessing) the
Pretender!
But who Pretender is—or who is king—
God bless us all—that's quite another
thing."

An attempt was made to arraign the local authorities for high treason with respect to their conduct at this period, but it was thought prudent to let the matter drop. In 1819 the "Peterloo" affair occurred. The country had long been in a disturbed state, owing to political agitations for reform, trade differences, and bad times generally, engendered by the cessation of the Peninsular War. In stirring up the discontent of the working classes, Mr. Hunt took a leading part, on one occasion presiding over an immense meeting in Peter's Field at Manchester. But the meeting having been declared illegal, an attack was made by the yeomanry, in which, unfortunately, several people were killed. It was a lamentable occurrence, and produced a degree of exasperation not easily forgotten by the Lancashire operatives, who called it the "Peterloo Massacre," and were fond of commemorating it in a ballad of Lancashire dialect:—

"Mr. Hunt new coom forrard an' spoke a
few words,
When the Peterloo cut-my-throats shaken'd
th' swords,
Aw thort sure enoof they were running
ther rigs,
Till aw seed moor nor twenty lay bleeding
like pigs."

Although this was the last noted outbreak of any importance that has happened in Manchester, it has always taken the lead in the great movements of Reform and Free-Trade, and has been the centre of that political organization known as the Manchester School. From first to last its history has been closely interwoven with that of the cotton-trade and factory system (*Introduction*, p. xxviii), every crisis of which, whether of success or adversity, is of incalculable importance to the whole town and neighbourhood. The only other points that need be named in this brief outline are its incorporation in 1838, its becoming

the seat of an episcopal see in 1847, and being made a city by Royal charter in 1853.

In visiting the specialities of Manchester, the tourist will naturally be anxious to see the mills and warehouses which form the chief characteristics of the district. To enable him to do this, he must procure introductions to the mill-owners whose establishments he wishes to inspect; for it can be easily understood that an objection is entertained to the admission of casual visitors of whom nothing is known. To those persons who are not interested in the trade, there is no real difficulty of access, when properly introduced, and the disinclination in other cases does not arise so much from a fear that improvements may be pirated (for everything worth having is protected by patent), as from the disturbance caused amongst the workpeople by the entrance of strangers, who take off their attention.

Amongst the public buildings best worth notice is the *Royal Infirmary*, which occupies a conspicuous position in a fine open space fronting Piccadilly, and consists of 3 sides of a quadrangle, one of which was built by the munificence of Jenny Lind, who devoted the proceeds of two concerts to that object. The architecture is Ionic, with a bold portico in front supported by 6 columns and surmounted by a domed clock-tower. The arrangements of the interior, which will accommodate 260 patients, are complete in every way; and the Lunatic Asylum, which was formerly part of the building, has been removed to Cheadle in Cheshire. Of late years great improvements have taken place in the exterior. A large sheet of water which once bounded the front has been removed, and a fine, open terrace substituted, decorated with fountains and statues in bronze of the Duke of Wellington, Watt, Dalton, and Sir Robert Peel.

The first and last of these have each a well-executed bas-relief of War and Plenty. In addition to the Infirmary, attached to which is a medical school of good repute, Manchester abounds with medical charities, houses of recovery, and dispensaries, which will not interest the general visitor. *St. Mary's Lying-in Hospital*, in Quay-street, is a handsome Italian building, erected soon after her Majesty's visit to it in 1851.

The *Royal Exchange* is a magnificent Italian building, at the bottom of Market-street, erected, in 1869, from designs by Messrs. Mills and Murgatroyd. The entrance is by a flight of steps and portico from Cross-street, with towers at the angles. The interior is probably the largest room in the kingdom, the ceiling forming a clear area, without supports, of 120 ft. in width. The first Exchange was built, in 1729, by Sir Oswald Mosley, but soon fell into disrepute, and was taken down in 1792. The merchants congregated round an obelisk which marked its site, but this *al fresco* way of doing business was found so inconvenient, that a new one was built in 1809. This again was enlarged to such an extent in 1849, that it was practically a new building; and although it contained an area of 1668 square yards the requirements of Manchester commerce have necessitated the erection of the third and latest Exchange.

Strangers can obtain tickets for 3 days by having their names entered by a subscriber, which gives the right of entry into the world-supplied news-room. But the great sight of the Exchange is on (cotton) market-days, between 11 and 2, when town and country subscribers meet together in one vast mass, each man intent on buying and selling, and helping to fill the room with a deep hum of voices like a gigantic beehive. Liverpool, Bolton, Wigan, Preston, Blackburn, Rochdale, Oldham, Bury,

Stockport, with all the subsidiary towns and villages, send forth their spinners and mill-owners, their printers and bleachers, to meet under this great roof, and transactions of enormous magnitude are concluded in a few minutes' time. Half-a-dozen sentences are sufficient to negotiate cottons and yarns to the extent of hundreds of thousands of pounds, so well-arranged and dovetailed is the system of doing business. In 1868 a secession took place of many of the country subscribers, in consequence of a determination of the directors to raise the subscriptions.

The *Assize Courts* (built in 1864) are situated in Great Ducie-street, on the site of old Strangeways Hall, and form a magnificent pile of buildings from designs by *Waterhouse*, in the mixed styles of E. Eng. and Dec. Although surrounded on all sides by streets, the front retires considerably from the roadway and allows a good view of the irregular groupings of pinnacles and towers. The entrance from Great Ducie-street is by a very beautiful portico, with flanks and extensions at each end in the form of pavilions. The interior contains in the principal story the Great Hall, the two Assize Courts, criminal and Nisi Prius, and the Sheriff's Court, with long corridors containing all the necessary rooms for barristers, officials, witnesses, &c. The basement is occupied with kitchens, heating-rooms, cells for prisoners, &c. In the upper story are the Chancery Court, the Grand Jury room, the Barrister's Dining-room, &c.; and above it all is a fine tower, 210 ft. high, which forms part of the arrangements for ventilation.

The arrangements of the whole building are remarkable for their convenience, and those of the courts for their perfect acoustic qualities. The architectural ornamentation of the portico and front façade are very florid, the principal story being

lighted by a range of Dec. windows with rich tracery; while those of the upper story are of E. Eng. date. The windows of the portico are to be adorned by statues of Alfred the Great, Glanville, Henry II., Edward I., Gascoyne, Sir T. More, Coke, and Sir Matthew Hale. The Great Hall is a remarkably beautiful room, lighted by a north window of 7 lights, the stained glass of which illustrates the signing of Magna Charta. The S. window contains the arms of England, Ireland, Scotland, the Duchy of Lancaster, and towns in the Salford Hundred. N. of the courts are the Judges' lodgings, a fine group of buildings in the same style. The visitor should notice the entrance hall, which contains a beautiful stone screen, with exquisitely-carved capitals and spandrels and shafts of polished serpentine. The cost of the whole pile was 100,000*l.*

Neither the *Corn Exchange*, in Hanging Ditch, nor the *Cloth Hall*, near the Victoria Bridge, are of much interest; but the *Town Hall*, in King-street is a fine, though rather heavy, building, erected, in 1832, after the Erectheus of Athens, at a cost of 40,000*l.* The Council-room contains portraits of all the mayors from the time of the incorporation of Manchester, and a marble bust of the late Joseph Brotherton, M.P. But, like the Exchange, it was found too small, and a larger and finer one is about to be erected in Albert-square. Nearly opposite the Town Hall, in King-street, is the Branch *Bank of England*, with a Doric façade from designs by *Cockerell*. A more beautiful building is the *Manchester and Salford Bank*, in Mosley-street, the great hall of which is well worth a visit. The *Salford Town Hall* is a Grecian-Doric building, and contains a portrait of the late Joseph Brotherton, M.P. The *Pendleton Town Hall* is an Italian building by

Darbyshire; the principal room is lighted by a stained glass window, in which the Queen is represented as "lady of the manor of Salford" and "Duchess of Lancaster." The *Free Trade Hall*, in Peter-street, built, in 1806, from designs by *Walters*, is a very fine building in the Lombardo-Venetian style, and serves as a convenient house of assembly for concerts, banquets, Reform meetings, or any other object which draws a large crowd together. The principal front, which is 160 ft. in length, is richly ornamented with shields of arms of the various Lancashire cotton-towns, or with sculptures intended to typify free trade. The free use of Aberdeen granite imparts colour which relieves the monotony. The interior, which will hold 5000 people, has a fine coved ceiling and richly-decorated walls.

Adjoining it is the (late) *Natural History Society's Museum*, which contains one of the best collections in the provinces, being particularly rich in geological and ornithological specimens. The Literary and Philosophical Society holds its meetings here, and has an honourable reputation in the world of science, not only for its present proceedings, but also for its association with a former President, Dr. Dalton, whose atomic theory is well known to every student of chemistry. The Natural History Society, after an honourable career of 50 years, was dissolved in 1868, and the Museum is to be re-organised and made public under the care of the trustees of the Owens College.

The *Royal Institution* is a fine Doric building in Mosley-street, from designs by *Sir C. Barry*. The entrance hall contains a cast of the *Elgin Marbles*, given by George IV., and a sitting statue of the late Dr. Dalton by *Chantrey*. An exhibition of paintings is annually held here, and thrown open to the public at a very low charge.

Close to it is the *Athenæum*, also by *Barry*, devoted to the use of that large section of clerks and others connected with the warehouses and factories, which forms such an important item in the social features of Manchester. A valuable library of 15,000 volumes, educational classes, and a gymnasium, are among the principal features of the establishment.

The *Mechanics' Institute* is of a similar character, and is situated in David-street. Here also is a library of 17,000 volumes. The *Portico* in Mosley-street is a library of higher character and more exclusive frequenters. The *Free Library* in Campfield possesses upwards of 35,000 volumes, and the aggregate number in all the free libraries in connection with it is nearly 78,000 volumes. The statistics show an annual issue of 200,000 books lent; proving that the classes for whom these libraries were established value the privilege. The *Memorial Hall*, in Albert-square, is a mediæval building intended to commemorate the memory of the 2000 ejected ministers of 1662, and was built in 1866 for religious and educational purposes of nonconformist bodies. For educational establishments generally Manchester is well off. The *High School* in Long Millgate, though possessing little claim to architectural merit, has an honourable reputation among existing grammar schools. It was founded in 1509 by Hugh Oldham, Bishop of Exeter, "out of the good mind he bore to the county of Lancashire, perceiving that the children thereof, having pregnant wits, were for the most part brought up rudely and idly, that knowledge might be advanced, and that the children might be better taught to love, honour, and dread God and His laws."—*Hollingsworth*. He ordained that the master and usher should "teach freely and indifferently every child and scholar

coming to the school, of whatever county or shire, without any money or reward taken therefore, as cock-penny, victor-penny, potato penny, or any other whatsoever, excepting his stipend and wages." He at the same time devised some mills on the Irk for its revenue. The master and undermaster have each a stall in the Cathedral, inscribed 'Archididasculus' and 'Hypodidasculus.'

Near the school, and under the shadow of the Cathedral, overlooking the Irk, is the venerable *Chetham Hospital and Library*, the quiet cloisters and passages of which form a singular and pleasing contrast in its repose to the noise and racket of the adjoining streets. The Hospital was founded by Humphrey Chetham, a merchant residing at Clayton Hall, in 1651, for the maintenance and education of 40 boys from Manchester and the neighbouring parishes, which number has been of late years increased to 100. For this purpose he purchased the premises known as the College, and at the same time gave 200*l.* for acquiring of "godly books"—the nucleus of the present valuable library of 30,000 volumes. The building itself occupies the site of a "castrum æstivum," or summer camp, of the Romans, and was originally the baronial mansion of the Greasleys. The *Chetham Library* and reading-room are open to all comers within certain hours. The former (containing 30,000 vols.) is a perfect paradise for book-lovers and scholars. The latter is a charming little room with a stained glass window and portraits of Humphrey Chetham, Dean Nowell (1575), Robert Bolton, a celebrated Puritan divine, William Whitaker, President of St. John's College, Cambridge, and John Bradford, the Lancashire martyr. The library is rich in valuable books of reference and MSS. It comprises the rare Antwerp Polyglot Bible, the Bishops' Bible, a collection of Byzantine Historica, a

[*Shropshire, &c.*]

number of standard county histories, a 14th-centy. copy of the 'Flores Historiarum,' the compilations of Matthew of Paris, Higden's 'Polychronicon,' and a large body of documents relating to Lancashire and Cheshire archæology. There are also Saxton's maps of the date of the 16th centy., with an autograph of Sir Christopher Hatton. The library was originally the dormitory. The hall, with dais and screen, is still perfect, and at one end of it is Chetham's parlour. By the dais there is a low side window, from which the alms were distributed—hence called the Dole Window. The entrance from the outside world is by a gateway from Hunt's Bank, over which is the motto of the founder, "Quod tuum, tene."

The *Owens College*, in Quay-street, is entirely a modern institution, founded in 1845 by a Manchester merchant of that name, who left 100,000*l.* for the purpose. It is in connection with the University of London, and is designed, after the requirements of the day, for comprehensive and liberal education, in which technical studies, such as chemistry and engineering, have particular attention paid them.

The *Deaf and Dumb* and the *Blind Asylums* are located under one roof near Old Trafford, in a very handsome Early Eng. building erected principally by a Mr. Henshaw, who left 20,000*l.* towards it. They are both open to the visitor who is interested in these charities.

As an ecclesiastical city and the centre of a diocese, it must be confessed that Manchester is sadly deficient in the outward appearance of its churches. Even the *Cathedral*, venerable as it is, does not soar above the dignity of a collegiate church, while many country churches exist equal, if not superior to it, in architectural beauties. Nevertheless, the old church, as it is commonly called,

is a fine building, and rises grandly enough over the oldest portion of the city, though even here there is but little that is coeval with it. According to Camden, "the College of Manchester was first founded A.D. 1421 by Thomas de la Warre, as first rector of the said parish church, and brother to the Lord de la Warre, whom he succeeded in the estate and honour, and then founded a college there, consisting of 1 master, 8 fellow chaplains, 4 clerks, and 6 choristers, in honour of St. Mary, to whom the parish ch. was formerly dedicated, St. Denis of France, and St. George of England." John Huntington, rector of Ashton, who built the choir, was the first warden, and the collegiate body was styled "The Guild of the Blessed Virgin in Manchester." The College was originally located in the buildings now occupied by the Chetham Hospital. In the reign of Edward VI. it shared the fate of most other monastic institutions and was dissolved, most of its lands and possessions falling into the hands of the Stanley family; but after the marriage of Queen Mary it was re-established with all its belongings and its privileges, the only change being in the title, it being called Christ's College, instead of the College of the Blessed Virgin. The College was again dissolved by the Parliament in the 17th centy., although again reorganised at the time of the Restoration. Amongst the Wardens who were at its head were Dr. Chaderton, afterwards Bishop of Chester and Lincoln; Dr. Dee, who was popularly supposed to have dealings with the devil from his skill in the occult sciences; Richard Murray, who, on preaching a very bad sermon before James I. from the text "I am not ashamed of the Gospel," was told by the King "that the Gospel had much more reason to be ashamed of him;" Dr. Wroe, so eloquent that he was styled the "silver-tongued;" and Samuel Peploe, Bishop of Chester in 1706.

Unfortunately for the building, the materials, "ex lapide duro," which Leland so much admired, had weathered exceedingly badly, and the whole Cathedral was fast going to decay. This, however, was soon prevented, and a very large subscription entered into for its restoration, which, under the care of Mr. Holden, was commenced in 1845 and finished in 1868; the last portion of the work being the almost entire renovation of the tower, which has been built of more durable stone than the old one.

The style of the Cathedral is Perp., and, as it at present stands, it is an irregular parallelogram in form, consisting of nave, side aisles, choir, Lady Chapel, western tower, porch, and a series of side chapels, which have the effect of making the width of the church to be 112 ft.—the widest parish ch. in England, with the exception of Coventry. This multiplication of aisles is very uncommon in England, though not so on the Continent. The total length is 220 feet. The nave is of six bays. The ceiling is of wood, with tie-beams, and is illuminated in various colours. The second aisles are of later date, viz. about the end of the 15th centy., while the nave is of the early part.

The chapels or chantries occur in the following order:—On the N. side of the nave, is St. James's, otherwise known as the Strangeways or Ducie Chapel. On the S. side, the one nearest the S. porch is St. George's, known by the several names of Bibby's, Galley's, and Browne's Chapel; and next to it is the St. Nicholas or Trafford Chapel. On the N. side of the choir is the St. John's or Derby Chapel, with a small supplementary one called the Ely Chapel. The Lady Chapel, at the E. end, is better known as the Chetham Chapel. On the S. side of the choir is the Chapter House, of octagonal form, to which succeeds the Jesus or Byrom Chapel. Like the

Derby Chapel, this one had a small mortuary chapel, called Hulme's, which was removed at the Restoration.

There are some good stained glass windows, principally memorial, both in the nave and choir; in the nave, to the memory of James Dunn, J. C. Harter, and Samuel Fletcher. The St. George's Chapel contains one to the Rev. T. Clowes, and the Trafford Chapel one given by Sir Thomas de Trafford. The choir has a fine seven-light E. window by *Hardman*; subject, the Crucifixion. The N.E. window, by *Wales*, is in memory of Humphrey Chetham, whose marble statue by *Theed* is placed close by. There is also a statue, by *Batley*, to a Mr. Fleming in the S.E. corner, one in the S. aisle to Mr. Dauntsey Hulme, by *Westmacott*, representing the Good Samaritan, and memorial windows in the Derby Chapel, by *Hughes* and *Edmondson*. In the Ely Chapel is the altar-tomb of Bishop Stanley, Warden in 1481, and Bishop of Ely in 1506. He is described as

"A goodlie tawel man, as was in all England,
And sped well in matters that he took in
hand,
An great visander as anle in his dayes."

The clerestory windows are to be filled up with scenes from the Old and those of the choir from the New Testament.

The choir, which is also of 6 bays, and has a fine panelled roof, contains the Bishop's throne and some beautiful tabernacle work in the canopies of the stalls, and notably in that of the Dean's stall. Notice also the carvings of the miserere seats and the reredos, which has been substituted for an ancient piece of tapestry that formerly stood there, representing Ananias and Sapphira. The subjects of the carving on the seats are figures of apes and foxes, one of which is running off with a goose. At the W. end of the stalls is the Stanley shield, and the representation of the eagle and child, from which that family takes its crest.

The font (Perp.) is very elaborate, and is a memorial of the Frere family. "The choir was built by the first warden, John Huntington, bachelor in degrees and rector of Ashton. This venerable and learned divine continued to occupy his dignified station for 37 years, and lies buried in the choir, with his effigy in sacerdotal vestments and the inscription 'Domine, dilexi decorum domus tue' over his remains. The rebus of this warden is to be seen on either side of the middle arch, indicated on the left side by hunting and on the right by a tun—Huntington."—*Baines*.

"The eagles, which, instead of angels, as in the nave, rise in the choir between the capitals of the vaulting shafts and the springers of the roof, indicate that James Stanley, who became Warden in 1481 (afterwards Bishop of Ely), was connected with this part of the building." The Lady Chapel was added by George West, brother of Lord Delawarr, Warden in 1518. Notice the peculiar circular arch leading into it from the choir. Humphrey Chetham and some members of his family are buried here.

The new tower, which has a parapet and pinnacles, is 139 ft. in height, and contains a fine peal of 10 bells, most of which were cast by the *Rudhalls*, a celebrated bell-founding family who lived at Gloucester in the 18th centy. The nave and tower are connected by a lofty Perp. arch, from whence the visitor gains a beautiful vista extending through the whole length of the ch. to the Lady Chapel. The roofs of nave and choir "are on the same level, and the arch opening to the choir rises nearly to the roof, so that the eye ranges beyond the choir screen to the E. window. This lofty choir arch and the unusual intricacy produced by the double aisles are the most noticeable points." There are two organs, one by Father Smith in the Derby Chapel, and a larger

one in ordinary use in the nave, which is fitted up like a parish ch., and where daily service is held. The service is choral, and fairly well done, though it must be confessed that the high musical character of Manchester is not carried out either in its Cathedral singing or its organ. As the ch. is parochial as well as cathedral, the visitor will be interested, if not amused, by the extraordinary list of marriage banns read out every Sunday, frequently lasting for more than a quarter of an hour. It is a true test of the prosperity or decline of the times, for there is a marked difference in the number of matrimonial aspirants when wages are low and mills are running half-time. "Th' ould church" is regarded with considerable affection by all classes in Manchester and its neighbourhood, and this draws an additional number of marriages. The ceremony itself is well worth attending, for probably there is no other church in England where it is performed in such a wholesale manner, and where so much curious character is to be seen. Laughable stories are told of the wrong people being buckled together in the confusion, and of the ceremony having to be repeated. One tale goes so far as to assert that the lady, finding she had married the wrong man, nobly declined to take advantage of the error, but announced her intention of keeping the one she had got.

Nearly all the churches in Manchester, which number in the city and suburbs about 75, are more or less modern, and few of them contain any object of special interest, except that some of the latest built, and particularly those in the environs, are good specimens of Dec. or E. Eng. architecture. Amongst the most noteworthy is *St. John's*, in Deansgate, which possesses some good paintings, a stained-glass window, said to have been originally brought from a con-

vent in Rouen, and a monument in Caen stone to a Mr. Marsden, who was conspicuous for his zeal in the half-holiday movement. *St. Peter's*, at the end of Mosley-street, is a hideous Doric building, but has a fine altar-piece of the Descent of the Cross by *A. Caracci*, together with some medallions, which are of questionable taste for church decoration. The organ is good; so is the choral service, though somewhat too florid and professional in style. But for anything like beauty of architectural style the visitor must go to the suburbs, to the chs. of *St. Luke's*, Chetham Hill (good organ), *St. Paul's*, Kersall Moor, Crumpall, Birch (the minister of which, Mr. Wiggins, is mentioned in the Lambeth MSS. as "a painful preacher"), Longsight, *St. George's*, Hulme, &c. At *Didbury*, a suburb to the S., was formerly a chantry kirk, endowed with land for the burial of the dead, and the observance of all religious rites required in the chapelry.

Ever since the Roman Catholics were ejected from the collegiate church, at the time of the Reformation, they had no chapel in Manchester till the beginning of last centy., when there was one in Smithy-door; but they have several at the present time, amongst which the visitor should notice that of *St. Augustine's*, in Granby-row, and the fine ch. of *St. John*, in Salford, which is of the earliest Dec. character, and has a spire 240 ft. in height. Non-conformist places of worship are numerous of every degree and kind, and, taking it as a whole, few cities are so well provided as Manchester with religious institutions. By the Census of 1851 it was shown that out of a population of 491,073 (in round numbers, half-a-million), there were sittings for 156,473 persons.

In addition to the buildings hitherto mentioned, the city contains the usual number of municipal

and other establishments incidental to all large towns, such as gaols, police courts, workhouses, gas and waterworks. The principal gaols are those of the *New Bailey*, in Salford, just across the Albert Bridge, which holds 797 prisoners, and the *City Gaol*, in Hyde-road, which has accommodation for 840. In connexion with the latter may be mentioned the Fenian attack on the prisoners' van in 1868. The city is well supplied with water, vast works having been constructed in the Etherow Valley (Rte. 18), from which a daily supply of 25,000,000 galls. can be obtained, at a cost of 2d. per 1000 galls. With the exception of Glasgow, this is believed to be the cheapest and most efficient supply of any city in the world.

The lungs of Manchester are to be found in three pretty and well laid out Parks.

The *Peel Park*, in Salford, embraces an area of 32 acres, overlooking the rt. bank of the Irwell, the windings of which, and the inequalities of the ground, have given ample scope for excellent landscape gardening and charming views up the vale. The principal objects of notice are a statue of her Majesty by *Noble*, erected to commemorate her visit in 1857, when she was welcomed by the National Anthem sung by 80,000 Sunday scholars. There are also statues of the Prince Consort, of Richard Cobden, Sir Robert Peel, and Joseph Brotherton, once M.P. for Salford. The building in the park contains the Salford Library, and a museum with a valuable and interesting general collection. Notice before leaving, the *Victoria Arch*, in memory of the Queen's second visit in 1857, a fine wrought-iron gateway in a Byzantine setting of stonework, and also the Pendleton Gates, given by Lord Ducie. They were made in Rome, and were originally the gates of Strangeways Hall.

The *Queen's Park* is in the Rochdale-road, at Harpurhey, overlooking the valley of the Irk, which is here of much more natural beauty than it is while threading its underground course through Manchester. An artificial lake adds to the scenery, to which the prettily-planted grounds of *Harpurhey Cemetery* contribute no little. Here also is a museum, in which those interested in phrenology will find an extensive series of casts made by the late Mr. Bally, a well-known Manchester professor of this science.

The *Philips Park* is not only pretty but valuable, inasmuch as it is situated in Ancoats, one of the most densely-populated districts of Manchester. The Medlock is made to do duty here in the landscape, and the park contains the usual amusements that the others contain.

The *Alexandra Park* at Hulme was opened in 1870.

In addition to these open spots, the crowds resorting to which prove how highly they are appreciated, there are other places of amusement, such as the *Zoological Gardens*, at Bellevue, near Longsight, where, in addition to the attractions of such places, fêtes are given in the summer; and if the southern visitor wants to see a collection of Lancashire, Yorkshire, and Cheshire operatives, he should go there on an excursion day—a sight not easily forgotten. The *Pomona Gardens*, on the banks of the Irwell, are of a similar character, though on a smaller scale and perhaps of somewhat lower resort. The *Botanical Gardens*, at Old Trafford, are very prettily laid out, and well worth visiting. It must be admitted that Manchester stands fairly well for her supplies of fresh air, even were there not a pretty and easily-accessible country on its outskirts. A desideratum, however, as in most populous towns, is the construction of small children's playgrounds here

and there amidst the courts and alleys, so that not only would breathing places of great value be established, but the streets and the houses of the poor would be relieved to an immense extent of their daily burden of inmates.

For indoor amusements there are three theatres.

The *Theatre Royal*, in Peter-street, will hold about 2000 people, and replaced an older one burnt down in 1844. The character of the performances (in which opera is occasionally given) will bear comparison with those in London. The *Prince's* and the *Queen's* Theatres are smaller houses, much in vogue with playgoers, who form a large class in Manchester. Music, however, is the chief attraction, and there is probably not a town in the kingdom where it is so keenly appreciated or cultivated to so high a pitch. Lancashire is notoriously a music-loving county with all classes, and Manchester has in addition a large resident population of Germans, so that it is no wonder that music finds such favour. There is a fine *Concert Hall*, in which, during the season, subscription concerts of high-class music are given. The *Free Trade Hall* (see *ante*) is the great locale of public performances, and it is a sight worth seeing when any particular attraction, such as one of Charles Halle's concerts, is going forward. Indeed it is scarcely fair to mention Manchester music without the name of *Halle*, who, by his wonderful genius and his long residence here, has invested it with a peculiar interest. Of music halls of a lower grade there is no lack, and they are mostly to be found in the neighbourhood of Peter-street, Deansgate, and Bridge-street.

The antiquary will find, to his regret, that modern improvements have destroyed nearly all the old

halls which were once pretty plentiful in Manchester and the neighbourhood, but of which, in most cases, nothing but the name remains. It will be sufficient to mention their localities. Old *Hulme Hall* was the seat of John de Hulme in Henry II.'s reign, and passed successively into the hands of the Prestwyches, Mosleys, Blands, and Lloyds. It was pulled down in 1764 by the Duke of Bridgewater, who wanted the ground for his new canal. Vast treasures were supposed to exist under Hulme Hall, for it is said that the Dowager Lady Prestwyche always told her son, that if he continued favourable to the Royal cause, there would be plenty of assistance forthcoming. But if this was the case, it is there still, for the old lady died suddenly without being able to reveal the secret.

The Mosleys also held *Ascoats*, *Collyhurst*, and *Hough Halls*. The former is modernised, and the residence of Mr. Murray.

Smedley Hall, a seat of the Chethams; *Strangeways Hall*, the site of the Assize Courts, of the Hartleys; *Denton Hall*, of the Hollands; *Birch Hall*, of the Haverseyes; *Reddish Hall*, *Barton Hall*, and *Culceth Hall*, in Newton, have all disappeared. So has *Garrett Hall*, the seat of the Traffords, for whom the boys in the grammar-school were obliged to pray for by name in Henry VII.'s reign. It was situated on the site of the present Brook-street, on the banks of the Medlock, whither the young men of Manchester used to resort for snipe shooting. *Broughton Hall*, once a seat of the Stanleys, and afterwards of the Chethams, and in modern days of the Clowes, is still tenanted, although the park is being built upon. *Ordsall Hall* (J. Markendale, Esq.) was the residence of the powerful Lancashire family of Radcliffe. It is a timber house of the time of Henry VIII., much altered and partly re-

built in the 17th century. The old portion contains some good windows and panelling. *Kersal Cell*, the seat of the Byroms, still remains in that family in the person of Miss Atherton ; and *Chorlton Hall*, the seat of the Mynshulls, is a boys' school. It is mentioned that this estate was sold in 1644 to Thomas Minshull for 300*l.* ; but the value of property had so increased, even as long ago as the close of last century, that it fetched 70,000*l.*

The antiquities of Manchester ought scarcely to be mentioned without a passing glance at the *worthies* who have been born here, or identified themselves with it from long residence. Amongst the most noteworthy are *Dr. Chaderton*, Warden of the College in 1579, and subsequently Bishop of Lincoln and Chester ;—*John Brudford*, a famous preacher of the doctrines of the Reformation, who was burnt for his opinions in Smithfield during the reign of Mary ;—*Dr. Barlow*, Bishop of Lincoln (16th centy.), of whom it is related, that when he was made Bishop of Rochester, the poorest diocese in the kingdom, he chose for his motto, "Discumbe in imo," but when he gained the richer see of Lincoln, he changed it for "Amico ! ascende superius !" — *Humphrey Chetham*, the founder of the Hospital and Library ;—*Dr. Bricok*, head master of the High School (1680), and afterwards Bishop of Chichester, a timeserver and a favourite of Charles II. and his mistress, the Duchess of Portsmouth ;—*Dr. Byrom*, a poet and wit (died 1763) ;—*Dr. Ogden*, a celebrated scholar and Professor of Geology at Cambridge (died 1778) ;—*Dr. Whitaker*, the historian of Manchester and friend of Gibbon. *Dr. Henry*, the chemist, and *Dr. Dalton*, the philosopher and discoverer of the atomic theory, were residents of Manchester ; as was also *Eaton Hodgkin-*

son, the mathematician and engineer (1861). Nor must we forget the *Rev. Hugh Stowell*, who was rector of Christ Church, Salford ; or that the first *Sir Robert Peel* was a Manchester manufacturer.

Although the size to which Manchester has grown has given it all the attributes and trades of a large city, no stranger can visit it, without at once perceiving that it is dependent on one great article of commerce, and that all other trades are subsidiary to it.

The history of the *factory system* and the cotton manufacture will be found in the *Introduction* (p. xxviii), as that more or less forms an integral portion of the history of every town in Lancashire. The reader will therefore only find under each town such facts of the cotton-trade as more particularly apply to that locality. That Manchester has long been the head-quarters of it, is proved by Camden's remark : "The fustian manufacture, called Manchester cottons, still continues there, and is of late very much improved by some modern inventions of dyeing and printing ; and this, with the great variety of other manufactures known as Manchester wares, renders not only the town itself, but also the parish about it, rich, populous, and industrious. Lewis Roberts also writes in 1641, "The town of Manchester buys the linen yarn of the Irish in great quantities, and weaving it, returns the same again in linen into Ireland to sell. Neither does her industry rest here, for they buy cotton-wool in London that comes from Cyprus and Smyrna, and work the same into fustians, vermilion, and dimities, which they return to London, where they are sold." Fustians seem, up to the middle of the 18th centy., to have been the staple trade of Manchester, together with tuckings and tapes, according to *Dr. Stukeley*.

But although they were spoken of generally as cotton goods, in reality they had very little to do with that material, as the warp was always made of linen yarn. In 1773 Arkwright's genius provided a warp of cotton twist, the first of the kind having been manufactured by his partners at their mills at Derby, in the face of very great difficulties, caused by the absurd enactments of the Legislature, which imposed double the duty on British calicoes to that on mixed fabrics of linen and cotton. This act having been repealed, an immense impetus was given to the trade by the invention of Hargreave's spinning-jenny in 1764. From that time may be dated the commencement of Lancashire pre-eminence in the cotton manufacture, of which Manchester soon became the centre. One great cause which contributed to this was the completion of the Duke of Bridgewater's Canal in 1761 (Rte. 34), by which the town was put into close connexion, not only with its immediate neighbours, but with all the principal cities of England. The impulse was tenfold when the railway system was introduced, and the opening of the Liverpool and Manchester Rly. in 1830 was the signal for a vast increase in trade of all descriptions. At the same time the rlys. have materially altered the relative position of Manchester to the surrounding districts. Formerly it was the centre of the factory system, containing more mills than any other place; but gradually the number of factories has decreased, in proportion to the relative increase of the place, millowners preferring, from various causes, to erect their mills in the adjoining towns and villages. Various causes have contributed to this change, such as more moderate rental, greater facilities of water-power, and so on; while the opening of fresh rly. branches to almost every hamlet has

put the manufacturers on the same footing as though their mills were in Manchester itself. The consequence is, that it has become the grand inland port, so to speak, or warehousing focus where the cotton of seven-tenths of Lancashire and Cheshire is sent from the country mills to be stored, sorted, packed, and sent away to all parts of the world.

As a general rule, therefore, the business is transacted in Manchester, although the bulk of the actual weaving and spinning is carried on elsewhere. To this fact Manchester owes most of her characteristic appearance, both as to buildings and population. Noble streets of warehouses have arisen, of such size and splendour that they look more like a succession of city palaces; and a walk down Portland-street or Mosley-street will at once convince the visitor of the magnitude of the trade which demands such accommodation. Where there are so many splendid buildings it is difficult to particularise; but as a sample pre-eminent amongst all others, that of Messrs. *Watts*, in Portland-street, may be mentioned.

It may help to give some idea of the infinite variety of the Manchester trade by a list of many of the branches of manufactures, as taken from the Directory:—Bandana printers, corah printers, bleachers, bobbin trimmers, calenderers, cartoon makers, casban makers, silesia makers, regatta makers, cop tube makers, cotton waste dealers, dimity makers, damask makers, doctor manufacturers, embroiderers, fent dealers, finishers, florentine makers, fancy drill makers, fret cutters, fustian makers, fustian shearers, galloon makers, garancine makers, brace-w-b makers, hair-seating makers, head-yarn makers, head knitters, jannette makers, jaconnette makers, heck makers, nankeen makers, pattern-card makers, picker makers, plush makers, quilting makers, reed

makers, satteen makers, sealette makers, twill makers, skewer makers, shuttle makers, sizers, fly makers, stiffeners, tawers, willow makers, wool scribblers. These, of course, are only subsidiary to and dependent upon the great army of manufacturers generally (*Introduction*, p. xl.).

The visitor will be struck with the thoroughly business-like aspect of the streets and people in them. No idlers or dawdlers are there, and their very dress betokens that this is not the place or the hour at which the Adonis of Manchester shows himself. At one o'clock almost everybody goes to dinner, and the stranger who meditates a six o'clock dinner will find that he is looked upon as somewhat an intruder upon the day's work, and moreover will run a chance of not getting any, unless he orders it beforehand. Every street and each little lane is blocked up by huge lorries full of bales of cotton or calicoes; some of them are dangling by giant cranes from the sixth or seventh stories of the warehouses, and the pedestrian will find that he has to look carefully to his steps, lest he be pushed under a wheel or knocked over by a bale. But at six or seven o'clock a change comes over the streets; the warehouses are shut up, the lorries and horses are in their stables, and all the outward-bound omnibuses are crammed to repletion with merchants and clerks going to the suburbs to their homes. The visitor who prefers seeing the *οἱ πολλοί* in their favourite haunts should go to Deansgate about ten o'clock on Saturday night, and he will find a characteristic gathering of "hands" busy marketing, and a perfect Babel of Lancashire brogue.

Conveyances.—Manchester is well supplied with the means of locomotion, for in addition to the main railways mentioned in p. 161, a sort of connecting girdle runs all round

the city. By this means the great systems are united, and the raw cotton from Liverpool to the various mills in the district is enabled to be sent direct without transhipping. In the same way calicoes and printed goods which have to be sent to the shipping-port without being warehoused in Manchester, need not undergo any delay there. There is thus an intimate ramification between the port, the warehouse, and the mill; scarce any manufacturing village, which is not served by some railway branch or other. The suburb villages in Cheshire and elsewhere are accommodated by frequent passenger trains, in addition to which large, roomy three-horse omnibuses ply at stated times throughout the day.

The connexion between the city and Pendleton is carried out by means of *street tramways*, with a centre wheel and rail, to allow greater grip for the omnibuses to ascend the hill.

Distances.—London, 189 m.; Birmingham, 76; Crewe, 31; Stockport, 6; Alderley, 13; Cheadle, 7; Stretford, 3½; Altrincham, 8; Bowdon, 8½; Lymm, 13½; Warrington, 22; Newton, 16; Liverpool, 30; Patricroft, 5; Eccles, 4; Tyldesley, 9; Chester, 40; Wigan, 17; Preston, 31; Chorley, 22; Bolton, 11; Bury, 10½; Clifton, 4½; Blackburn, 24½; Darwen, 20½; Middleton, 6; Rochdale, 10½; Heywood, 10; Oldham, 7; Ashton-under-Lyne, 6½; New Mills, 15; Buxton, 31; Hyde, 7; Staley Bridge, 8.

Excursions and Walks in the neighbourhood of the City.—Peel Park, Queen's Park, Botanical Gardens, Bellevue, Bowdon, Dunham-Massey Park, Rosthern Mere, Alderley Edge, Marple, and New Mills.

ROUTE 28.

MANCHESTER TO OLDHAM BY
ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.

Like most of the Lancashire spinning districts, that of Ashton and the Cheshire border is accessible from Manchester by two railway systems, that of the London and North-Western and of the Sheffield and Lincolnshire.

By the former line the traveller quits the city at the Victoria Stat., running through a densely populated district to MILES PLATTING JUNC., where the Lancashire and Yorkshire rly. is given off to the l.

Shortly after leaving the suburbs, the country becomes open and undulating, offering pleasant views of the Cheshire moors, backed up by the blue ranges of the Derbyshire hills, and diversified by many a "clough" and streamlet, picturesque enough at its source, but considerably marred and defiled when it gets amongst the factories and printing works. For miles and miles are seen tall slender chimneys, marking the localities of the various villages and towns, each one the nucleus of a considerable population entirely dependent on the staple manufacture. The line runs up the valley of the Medlock,

which, although disfigured by the dye-refuse, is nevertheless a different stream to what it is when pent up in its sewer-like course through Manchester.

2 m. *Park Stat.*

3½ m. *Clayton Bridge Stat.* *Clayton Hall*, nearly 1 m. to the rt., was the residence of Humphrey Chetham, founder of the hospital of that name in Manchester. The old hall, supposed to have been constructed of materials from the first wooden church of Manchester, was destroyed by fire. "In some MSS. of receipts and disbursements belonging to the Chethams, kept in the time of Charles II., there is an item for moneys paid to the 'boon-shearers' of Clayton Hall." 'Boon-shearers' were people subject to certain rules of the Lordship, such as ploughing, harrowing, and carting for the lord's house.

5 m. *Droylsden Stat.* "A singular wake custom was introduced here about 1814, from Woodhouses, near Failsworth, where it has been prevalent for more than the third of a century. The ceremonial issued from Greenside (a hamlet of Droylsden), and consisted of two male equestrians grotesquely habited. One, John, son of Robert Hulme of Greenside, personified a man; the other, James, son of Aaron Etchells, of Edge Lane, a woman. They were engaged with spinning-wheels spinning flax in the olden time, and conducting a rustic dialogue in limping verse, and gathering contributions from spectators. Latterly a cart was substituted for a saddle, as being a safer position in case they grew tipsy."—*Higson's History of Droylsden*. The substitution was not unnecessary, as on one occasion it is related that both performers fell off the horse from excess of joviality. An old local ballad commemorates these wakers:—

"It's Dreighden wakes, un wey're comin' to town
 To tell ye o' something o' great reneawn:
 Un' if this owd Jade ill lem 'mi begin
 Awl sho' yo heaw hard un how fast an can
 sp'n.

So its threedey-wheel, threedey-wheel,
 daw, don, dll, doe."

"Threedey-wheel" is evidently a corruption of "tread the wheel."

Soon after leaving the junction with the Sheffield and Lincolnshire line, the tourist reaches the ancient borough of *Ashton-under-Lyne*.

By the Sheffield and Lincolnshire route the London Road terminus is the starting point. At **ARDWICK JUNC.** the London line (L. and N.W.R.) turns to the S., the one to Ashton running through an uninteresting district occupied by various manufacturing establishments. At *Ashbury*, 2 m., is the Britannia railway-carriage factory, and a little further on, at *Gorton*, are Messrs. Beyers and Peacock's engine works. The country becomes more open at 4 m. *Fairfield*, where are reservoirs, feeders of the Manchester and Stockport Canal. *Fairfield* is almost entirely occupied by a Moravian settlement, first planted here in 1785.

5 m. **GUIDE BRIDGE JUNC.** with the Stockport and Staleybridge line, and of the Ashton branch with the main line. The latter soon enters Cheshire, branching again at **NEWTON JUNC.** for Hyde (Rte. 16). By this latter route Stockport gains another and independent communication with Manchester.

7½ m. *Ashton-under-Lyne* (*Inn*: Old Boar's Head), although now a very busy cotton town, has an ancient and respectable pedigree, deriving its name from the Saxon word *æsc*, an ash, and *tan*, an enclosed place, which is incorporated in the word *Estan* as found in the Testa de Nevill. The additional name was given it to signify its situation on the borders of Cheshire, and to dis-

tinguish it from other places of the same name, as Ashton-upon-Mersey, and Ashton in Makerfield. In 1336 (temp. Edward III.), the manor came into the hands of the Assheton family, with whom the traditions and history of Ashton are largely identified, and it remained in their possession until the death of Sir Thomas Assheton (in the reign of Henry VIII.) whose daughter and heiress carried it by marriage to Sir William Booth, of Dunham-Massey (Rte. 19), the ancestor of the Earls of Stamford, who now hold it.

The Asshetons were great favourites of their respective sovereigns, who highly esteemed their valour. Sir Robert was appointed Governor of Guynes, near Calais, Justice of Ireland, High Treasurer and Chancellor of the Exchequer, and he lies buried in Dover Castle, of which he was governor. His son Thomas fought at Neville's Cross, under Queen Philippa, and had the honour of capturing there the standard of Scotland. The town and manor are the subject of some curious traditions and customs associated with this family. "The ceremony of 'Riding the Black Lad' takes place on Easter Monday in each year. So conflicting are the traditions as to the cause of this exhibition, that one version attaches to it infamy, and another represents it as honourable to the ancient dominant family. According to the former it is meant as an expression of perpetual abhorrence towards the memory of Sir Ralph Assheton; but the latter supposition is, that in some way not very easy to be conceived, this ceremony is intended as a mark of honour towards the hero of Neville's Cross." —*Baines*. Dr. Hibbert Ware attributes the custom to an old perambulation still carried on in some Scotch parishes called "guld-riding," the object of which was to get rid of a mischievous weed called "guld," for every plant of which, when found,

the farmer was liable to be mulcted in a wether sheep. "It appears that Ralph of Assheton, the son of Sir John, became by his alliance with a rich heiress the lord of the neighbouring manor of Middleton, and soon afterwards received the honour of knighthood, being at the same time entrusted with the office of Vice-Chancellor to Henry VI., and it is related, of Lieutenant of the Tower. Invested with this authority, he committed violent excesses in this part of the kingdom. In retaining also for life the privilege of "guld riding," he on a certain day in spring made his appearance in this manner clad in black armour (whence his name of the Black Lad), mounted on a charger, and attended by a numerous train of his followers, in order to levy the penalty arising from neglect of cleansing the land of "carr gulds." The interference of so powerful a knight could not but be regarded by the tenants of Assheton as tyrannical, and the name of the "Black Lad" is still regarded with no other sentiment but horror. Tradition, indeed, has perpetuated the prayer that was frequently ejaculated for a deliverance from his tyranny:—

"Sweet Jesu, for thy mercy's sake,
And for thy bitter passion,
Save us from the axe of the Tower,
And from Sir Ralph of Assheton."

Upon the death of the guld rider of Assheton, Sir John's heir and successors abolished the usage for ever, and reserved from the estate a small sum of money (formerly 10s., now 5s.) for the purpose of perpetuating, in an annual ceremony, the dreaded visits of the Black Knight. This is kept up at the present day. An effigy is made of a man in armour, and the image is deridingly emblazoned with some emblem of the occupation of the first couple that are linked together in the course of the year. The black boy is then fixed on horseback,

and after being led in procession through the town, is dismantled, and made to supply the place of a shooting butt."—*Dr. Hibbert Ware*. The shooting has been long discontinued, but a sort of pageant is still made of it on Easter Monday, which is kept as a great holiday in Ashton. "The Black Knight of Ashton" forms one of the most interesting of Roby's 'Lancashire Traditions.'

The very objectionable custom of paying "heriot" existed in all its force in the manor of Assheton. At the death of the head of the family, the priest usually claimed the best beast which the family of the deceased possessed, called the mortuary beast, as a supposed quitance of all unpaid claims of tithes. Assheton, however, had the additional tax of a heriot to be paid to the Lord of the Manor, who claimed the best beast, the second best going as a mortuary offering to the priest. This latter was a sort of fee or honorarium, and called "a corse-present," but eventually grew into a claim, and was exacted as a right by the clergy till the Reformation.

There was also an obligation to grind corn at the Lord's mill, on his own terms of payment; but when the owner's corn came to be ground, the miller was obliged to take everybody else's out of the hopper until the Lord's supply was furnished. No wonder that, under the circumstances, the Lords of Assheton were not the most popular. The old manorial *Corn Mills* are still in existence, though now partly converted into cotton mills. From "The Custom Roll," it appears that John of the Edge was miller in 1422, and that he paid 16s. 4d. for rent.

The church was originally founded in the 15th centy., but it has been so often repaired and enlarged, and particularly in 1821, when it was nearly destroyed by fire, that scarce anything is left of the original building.

A steeple was added at the close of the last centy. Concerning the ch. it is told, that while the workmen employed on it were one day amusing themselves at a game of cards, a woman came up and asked them to turn up an ace, promising that, if they did, she would build several yards for them. The ace was accordingly turned up, and she fulfilled her promise. The real truth seems to have been, that Lady Elizabeth Assheton, finding the men idling during the building of the steeple, desired them to add her arms to that of her husband, and they were accordingly placed on the S. side—Assheton impaling Stavley; but subsequent repairs have destroyed them. The shape of the escutcheon, something like an ace, may have given rise to the story. Some curious arrangements were made by Sir John. "We find him assigning the forms or benches to his tenants; but the names for whose uses they are appointed are all females. From this it may seem that seats in our churches were first put up for their convenience. Eighteen forms or benches are mentioned for the occupation of one hundred wives and widows, who are named, besides their daughters and servant wenches. Their husbands had not this privilege, being forced to stand or kneel in the aisles, as the service required." The document which contains these rules is adorned with a rude plan of the ch., containing the names of the different occupants on their respective benches. On one is "Uxor Thomæ de Claydon, Uxor Radulphi de Wood and their servants and other gentils strangers;" and on another is inscribed, "Tenants wyneches of Sir John the Byron that dwel yon with him."

The interior of the ch. contains some very old stained glass, some tabernacle work in the chancel, and several ornamental effigies of the Assheton family. One of the former

rectors of Assheton was a brother of Lord Fairfax, who had to fly during the Civil Wars, and into whose place John Harrison, described as an orthodox though painful minister, was inducted by a party of soldiers.

Ashton contains 3 other (modern) chs.—St. Peter's, Christ Ch., and St. James's. The latter has good stained glass in the chancel. Amongst other buildings are the *Town Hall*, erected in 1840, from designs by Young, in the Corinthian style; the *Oddfellows' Hall*, in Stamford-street, and the *Infirmiry*, a handsome Elizabethan building, prettily placed on high ground. The streets are remarkably wide and well laid out, a circumstance that the town owes to the constant presence of Lord Stamford's surveyors.

The *Old Hall*, formerly the baronial residence of the Asshetons, has been partially restored, and is the occasional residence of the Earl of Stamford. Adjoining it is a stone building, flanked on the E. and W. by towers, and having a conical roof. This is called the *Dungeon*, and was formerly known as the *Bestal* (*Bastille*?), which was held by Thomas Stayley at the rent of one penny. The Asshetons appear to have held summary jurisdiction over the dwellers on their lands.—"In the Harleian MSS. mention is made of annuities being paid to Sir Ralph, with divers lordships, and a tun of wine yearly. So powerful was his jurisdiction, that a grant was made to him to the effect that, if in cases of emergency suitable persons could not be procured for the trial of delinquents, his own authority should be sufficient for the purpose."—*Roby*. Under these circumstances it is probable that the *Bestal* seldom lacked an occupant, especially when the Lord happened to be of a tyrannical nature like Sir Ralph. The *Gallows Meadow*, where they executed refrac-

tory offenders, is now occupied by the goods yard of the rly. The town is still governed by a formidable list of officials, including a mayor, a leet steward, 3 high constables, 4 assistant constables, 12 to 24 jurymen, 12 bye-law men, 2 bailiffs, 2 pounders, 3 afferers, an inspector of weights, 2 market lookers, an ale-taster, and 2 bellmen.

Ashton is almost entirely dependent on the cotton trade. Formerly wool was the staple manufacture, but that has long been given up. The parish contained in 1867 122 cotton-mills, the aggregate of which employed 6833 horse-power, 16,770 power looms, and 2,278,000 spindles. In connection with the *Oxford Mills*, it may be mentioned that a fine building, containing Free Baths, Library, &c., has been erected by the owners for the use of their workpeople.

1 m. from Ashton on the Mottram Road is *Staley Bridge*, a busy cotton town, of some 21,000 inhabitants. (*Inn*: Castle.) The River Tame divides it, one-half being in Lancashire, and the other in Cheshire. There is not much to interest the tourist in it, for the buildings are all modern, although it obtained its name from the *Staveley* or *Stayley* family, which intermarried with the *Asshetons*. Robert de *Staveley* held these lands in the time of Richard III., and Thomas *Assheton* married Margaret de *Staveley*, whose arms, with those of her husband, were placed on the steeple of *Ashton-under-Lyne* ch. A hundred years ago there were only 140 inhabitants in *Staley Bridge*, and the first cotton-mill was built in 1776, by a person named *Hall*, who introduced machinery, but thereby underwent so much popular odium, that he was forced to keep his mill regularly garrisoned. At that time the village only boasted one dyer, whose only assistants were a couple of mastiffs,

whom he had trained to turn a little mill in which the ingredients were ground.

Like *Ashton*, *Staley Bridge* is well supplied with conveniences of carriage, both towns having 2 independent lines of rail, besides 2 or 3 canals. For a good view of the district ascend *Wild Bank*, 1½ m. rt. (in Cheshire), which is 1300 feet in height.

The neighbourhood of *Ashton* abounds in the residences and villas of manufacturers and others interested in the place. There are also a few old houses, such as *Buckley Hall* (1 m. to the W.), built by Mrs. Elizabeth *Buckley* in 1618, which, though now decayed, shows some old-fashioned features in its windows and ornamental brickwork. *Cinderland Hall*, near it, was the residence of the *Cinderlands* in the 12th centy., and is fitted up internally with good woodwork. At *Woodhouses*, a hamlet to the N. of *Cinderland*, are some old houses, called *Diamond*, *Within*, and *Brick Halls*; and on the bank of the *Medlock* at *Waterhouses* is an old timbered house, called *Woodhouse*, built by Gregory de *Bardaley* in 1422. *Tawnton Hall*, near to *Ashton*, of which there is but little left, was the residence of *Thomas Claydon* in the reign of Henry VI.

From *Ashton* the journey northwards may be completed to *Oldham* by 2 routes. The most direct is by the *Manchester, Sheffield, and Lincolnshire* line. 2 m. on rt. is *Limehurst*, the estate of which was called *John of Jerusalem's Land*, and belonged to the *Knight's Hospitallers*. The tenant was compelled to bring a rose on the feast of *St. John the Baptist*, as an acknowledgment of his tenure.

8½ m. at *Parkbridge Stat.* the line crosses the *Medlock*, and there are large ironworks, the property of the *Lees* family, which has resided at

Parkbridge for more than a century. On l. is the cotton village of *Bardley*, and in the grounds of *Bardley House* (W. Hulton Harrop, Esq.) is a very large oak-tree, the branches of which cover an area of 1360 square yards. Further on (l.) is *Deanshut*, an old house built by the Sandifords in 1611.

10½ m. *Oldham Stat.*

By the London and N. W. route, the main line to Huddersfield and Leeds, it is a more circuitous but much prettier journey to Oldham. Passing *Staley Bridge*, the line follows the valley of the *Tame*, which here divides Lancashire from Yorkshire.

3 m. (from *Staley Bridge*) *Mossley Stat.* The high grounds of *Brown Edge* and *Hartahead* are worth ascending for the sake of the view on the Yorkshire Moors. On the latter there is an unfinished tower or pillar, intended to supply the place of an older one, which fell in 1794.

To the W. of *Hartahead*, near the farm of *Twirl Hill*, is the old *Tythe Stone*, to which the farmers of the district came for centuries to pay their tithe to the lord of the manor. At *Knott Hill* is the reservoir which supplies Ashton with water, containing two hundred million gallons. The banks are prettily laid out and planted. 1½ m. E. of *Mossley*, on the hills, is an old British earthwork, known as *Bucton Castle*. From traces of a Roman road running beneath it, it is probable that it was subsequently utilised as a castrum. Beyond *Mossley Stat.* the line enters Yorkshire, to

5 m. *GREENFIELD JUNC.*, from whence the traveller goes westward some 3 or 4 m. through a broken and picturesque country. A tunnel is passed through to

6 m. *Grotton Stat.*

6½ m. *Lee Stat.* The adjoining village of *Hey* is of considerable an-

tiquity, and it is supposed that a chapel of ease to Ashton mother ch. has existed here for centuries.

8 m. *Oldham (Inn, Albion)* is one of the most important of the South Lancashire cotton towns, containing a population of 80,000, entirely dependent on the manufacture of fustians, velveteens, calicoes, cotton and woollen cords, &c. Formerly it was celebrated for its hats, the making of which is still largely carried on, and it is to the munificence of Mr. Henshaw, a hat-maker, that Oldham is indebted for its excellent *Blue Coat School*, and Manchester for its *Blind Asylum*.

All the buildings in Oldham are modern, and even the parish ch., which is Perp. in style, and not of later date than 1829, is being replaced; the old one being too small for the increasing population.

The places worth notice are the *Town Hall*, the *Lyceum*, the *School of Science and Art*, mainly established by Mr. Platt, M.P., the *Blue Coat School*, a handsome Gothic building, to contain 120 boys, and the *Alexandra Park*, opened in 1865, and partly begun as a means of affording work to the distressed operatives during the Cotton Famine.

Probably no place has increased faster than Oldham. A century ago there were only 60 houses in it, and at the commencement of the present century the pop. was but 12,000. The collieries, which lie thickly in this neighbourhood, have partly contributed to the increase, but the cotton trade has been the main cause. Some of the finest factories in the county are to be found here. Nor should mention be omitted of the splendid establishment of the Messrs. *Platt*, who, as machinists, have a world-wide reputation. "In 1794, when the first steam-engine was used here, there were only 12 mills. In 1866 there were 120, containing three million spindles, with 9000

looms, employing upwards of 28,000 hands, and producing 2,780,000 lbs. of yarn per week; which is equal to a consumption of one-ninth part of the entire consumption of cotton in Great Britain."

By means of the *London and North-Western*, the *Manchester, Sheffield, and Lincolnshire*, and the *Lancashire and Yorkshire* systems, Oldham is placed in direct communication with Leeds, Rochdale, 7½ m., Ashton, 9 m., and Manchester.

Continuing northwards by the Lancashire and Yorkshire line, the traveller arrives at RORTON JUNC. The village of *Royton*, prettily situated in a deep valley, lies 1½ m. N. W. The old Hall belonged to the ancient family of Radcliffe, and, after passing through several hands, amongst whom were the Byrons, ancestors of the poet, is again in the possession of that family. It is worth mention, as an example of the refined taste of many of the weaving class of workmen, that there is in Royton a flourishing Botanical Society, first established in 1794 by John Mellor, a weaver.

3 m. (from Oldham) *Shaw Stat.* The country becomes bleak and uninteresting.

4½ m. *New Hey Stat.*

5½ m. *Milnrow Stat.* The ch. here (rebuilt) was formerly an oratory belonging to Butterworth Hall. Milnrow, however, founds its reputation on being the residence of John Collier, otherwise known as "Tim Bobbin," celebrated as painter, musician, and poet. His poems are largely read and quoted in the district, and are rich specimens of Lancashire humour and broad vernacular. His best is the Dialogue between Tummus o' Williams o' Margit's o' Roaph's and Meary o' Dick's o' Tummy's o' Peggy's. The Rev. Canon Raines, a well-known Lancashire antiquary, is vicar of Milnrow.

7½ m. Rochdale (Rte. 29).

ROUTE 29.

FROM MANCHESTER TO BURNLEY
BY MIDDLETON, ROCHDALE AND
TODMORDEN.

The traveller quits Manchester by the Lancashire and Yorkshire Rly. from the Victoria Terminus, and turns off at 1¼ m. *MILES PLATTING JUNC.*, with the Ashton Line (Rte. 28). On l. are *Collyhurst Hall*, an old seat of the Mosleys, and *Whitworth Hall*, now a labourer's cottage, but once the residence of the Whitworth family.

2½ m. *Newton Heath Stat.*, for Failsworth. 1 m. l. is *Harpurhey*, a suburb of Manchester, in which the Queen's Park is situated; and further north, on the Rochdale road, is *Blackley* (pronounced Blakeley), where are the damask weaving factory of the Houldsworths. In old times Blackley was celebrated for its park, which possessed a deer-leap, and was worth "in pannage, acry of eagles, herons, hawks, honey-bees, mineral earths, ashes, and other irona, fifty-three shillings and four pence." *Blackley Hall*, now destroyed, formerly belonged to the Leghs, and was celebrated for the "boggart" which tenanted it.

5½ m. MIDDLETON JUNC. A branch line on rt. goes to Oldham (Rte. 28), which is well seen on the high ground some 3 m. distant.

Just within the corner of the line, on rt., stood *Fozdenton Hall*, the seat of a branch of the Radcliffe family. It was a beautiful house of the 16th centy., bestowed as the dowry of Margaret Chadderton on her marriage with John Radcliffe, son of De Radcliffe, in the reign of Henry II. Sir William Radcliffe, a descendant of this branch, was taken prisoner by the Parliamentary forces at Marston Moor, 1644 (see Radcliffe, Rte. 30).

A short branch line on l. leads to

6 m. *Middleton (Inn: Boar's Head)*, a busy little manufacturing town which, like Oldham, was a mere hamlet at the close of the last cen'y., but which, with its suburbs of Rhodes and Tonge, now contains a population of 20,000 dependent on collieries, silk weaving, and calico printing.

The country all about the neighbourhood of the Irk is very picturesque and broken, and especially at the head of the valley at which Middleton is situated. In very early times the manor was attached to the Honor of Clitheroe, and was held by the De Lacy, Earls of Lincoln.

The family of De Middleton held the manor under them until the reign of Edward II., when Agnes de Middleton conveyed it to John de Barton, whose daughter, Margery, brought it into the Asheton family by marriage with Sir Roger, the Black Knight. Soon after the death of Sir George Booth, in 1716, the then representative of the Asheton family, it came into the possession of the Lords Suffield until 1848, when (sad ending to its dignified pedigree) it was bought by Messrs. Peto and Betta, in whose possession it remained until the

dispersal of their estates by the great failure of 1861.

The church, supposed to have been originally founded in the reign of Henry III., was rebuilt in the 16th centy. by Richard Asheton and his wife, and was further added to in 1847. It consists of nave and side aisles, chancel, tower, and three chapels, called respectively the Rector's, Hopwood, and Asheton Chantry.

There is a remnant of the old Norm. ch. in the arch between the nave and the tower.

The Asheton chapel is at the S.E. corner, and contains amongst monuments and remnants of that family some of the armour of Sir Richard Asheton, which on his return from Flodden he deposited here and dedicated to St. Leonard, the patron saint of the ch. There is also a stone altar with 5 incised crosses. Amongst the monuments is one to Sir Ralph Asheton, commander of the Lancashire forces (d. 1650), and his wife, and to Sir Ralph, the last of the line (d. 1765).

The Rector's chapel contains a stained glass portrait of Thomas de Langley, Bishop of Durham and Chancellor of England.

The Hopwood chapel has the monuments of the Hopwoods of Hopwood. The rails which shut off the chapel from the remainder of the ch. are of the date of Charles II. Notice also the oak screen which divides nave and chancel. It is of 9 compartments, and contains shields of the Bartons, Ashetons, Radcliffes, Byrons, and Stanleys.

The ch. contains some good brasses. On the N. of the chancel floor, to Richard Asheton and his wife, 1618, and on two supplementary brasses are their six sons, all kneeling, except the child in swaddling clothes and the two daughters. To this succeed brasses of a lady and three men, one a yeoman, the other

two military—these represent Alice, wife of John Lawrence, and her subsequent husbands Richard Radcliffe de Tower and Thomas Bothe de Hackensall, 1531. In the centre is an ecclesiastic—Edmund Assheton, Rector of Middleton in 1522. In the S. of the chancel are brasses to a gentleman and his wife, their 7 sons and 6 daughters.

There is some remarkably interesting stained glass. That in the chancel window was transferred from the Rectory, known as the "Old Hall," and contains the arms of the Asshetons and the families with whom they have intermarried. "In the N. window is a group of figures representing persons of note in the neighbourhood, to whom tradition has assigned the honour of having led the Middleton bowmen in the battle of Flodden Field—though a discrepancy in the date, which is 8 years antecedent to that battle, seems to negative the supposition. In this antique group we have the chaplain, Henry Taylor, and the 17 warriors, all in a kneeling posture, and each bearing on his left shoulder his bow, with relaxed string, while his quiver, charged with arrows, is slung on his back. A mutilated inscription, strangely transposed in repairing the window, invites the parishioners to pray 'for the good estate of Sir Richard Assheton and those who glazed this window, and whose arms and pictures are shown above.'"

The Rectory, or "*Old Hall*," still retains some of the buttresses and a portion of the moat, with the loop-holed wall for the discharge of arrows. As late as the end of the last centy. it was entered by a draw-bridge and a bridgehouse.

Middleton possesses a good *grammar school*, founded in Queen Elizabeth's reign by Alexander Nowell, Dean of St. Paul's, who endowed it with the manor of Upberry and

Rectory of Gilham in Kent. But Sir Edward Hobia, who was lessee of the property, diverted the rents of Middleton School to his own use, to prevent which the dean was obliged to petition the Keeper of the Great Seal. This document is still preserved in the Harleian MSS.

The trade carried on at Middleton embraces calicoes, naukeens, gingham, checks, and the weaving of silk, which, however, does not seem to prosper. The Messrs. Schwabe have very large print works at Rhodes, which give employment to 1000 hands.

In the neighbourhood are *Rhodes House* (Mrs. Schwabe), *Litchford Hall* (W. Langton, Esq.), *Allcington Hall* (J. Lees, Esq.), once the seat of the Levers, where Sir Ashton Lever collected his celebrated museum, contemporary with the Towneley Museum. In 1785 he obtained permission to dispose of it by lottery, and it was drawn by a Mr. Parkinson, who, after exhibiting it for some time, sold it.

Continuing northwards from Middleton, on rt. of the rly., is *Chadderton*, a village principally tenanted by handloom weavers.

Chadderton Hall was formerly the seat of the Traffords, one of whom took the surname of Chadderton, but by marriage it subsequently passed into the hands of the Radcliffes, Ashtons, and Hortons. The old Hall is going to decay, but still contains some memorials of its former greatness in the portraits of the Horton family and the old oak staircase of the date of Charles II.

Here was born, in 1536, Lawrence Chadderton, a celebrated preacher at the time of the Reformation, who, disinherited for his attachment to the Protestant religion, became the first Master of Emanuel College, Cambridge. So highly was he esteemed that he was chosen by James I. to be one of the Commissioners for translating the Bible.

Not far from the village is the Oldham cemetery, the town of Oldham being about 2 m. distant.

A little further (on l.) is *Hopwood Hall*, which has been the seat of that family since the 15th centy. Galfridus Hopwood is mentioned in 1441 as having been one of the witnesses to the licence for the foundation of Manchester ch. The house, originally a quadrangular building of the time of Henry VIII., has been modernized. In 1855 Hopwood was the scene of a famous Lancashire will case, which ended in the estate being secured to Capt. Hopwood, the present owner.

8½ m. BLUE-PITS JUNG. [From hence the branch to Heywood and Bury is given off. *Heywood*, 70 years ago a small village of handweavers, is now a populous manufacturing town of 10,000 inhabitants, to the growth of which the family of Peel contributed much, the first mill that was started here being built by the father of the first Sir Robert. *Heywood Hall* (W. Holland, Esq.), an old ivy-covered house, was the residence of the Heywood family, and particularly "of Peter Heywood, mentioned by Lord Clarendon in his 'Great Rebellion,' whose fortune it was to contribute to the discovery of the conspirators implicated in the Gunpowder Treason, and who narrowly escaped assassination at a subsequent period by the hand of a frantic Dominican friar, for urging "poor Catholics to take the oath of supremacy and allegiance."

The scenery of the Roch, a little to the N., is in many places very charming, but is better visited from Rochdale.

10½ m. *Rochdale* (*Inns*: Reed, Railway), in ancient charters called *Rached* or *Reced-ham*, is now a busy and important town, containing upwards of 40,000 people actively engaged in manufacturing pursuits.

Cottons and calicoes form a large portion of the trade, but the proximity of the Yorkshire border is shown in its woollen factories, which monopolize the greatest amount of industrial energy. Fustians, flannels, and friezes, are also made here in considerable quantities, and a number of villages in the neighbourhood contribute to swell the "hands," for there is scarcely a hamlet without its woollen or cotton mill. One reason of this is the broken and romantic nature of the ground, which is watered by several bountiful streams, affording a constant water supply.

Few manufacturing towns have such pretty scenery at its doors as Rochdale, situated as it is on steep ground above the junction of the Roch with the Spodden. Together with the picturesque cloughs and dells formed by these streams there is an unusual number of old houses, which have survived destruction, and which add much interest to the locality. Curiously enough there is no real township of Rochdale, but it is an aggregation of three other townships, Castleton, Spotland, and Hundersfield. The old manor, which belonged to the Lacys, passed from them to the Ellands, who held it in partnership with the Savilles in the 14th centy. The ancient chief rents, payable to the lord of the manor, are still called "Saville rents." The Duchy rents, called "Rex rents," ceased in the time of Henry VII. In Elizabeth's reign the manor merged in the Duchy, and was devised by the Queen to Sir John Byron, whose descendants held it until 1823, when they sold it to the present possessors, the family of Dearden. The largest portion of the town is on the rt. or N. bank of the Roch, the district to the S. being in Castleton.

The *parish ch.* of *St. Chad* is of a debased style of architecture, although

it possesses some ancient features in its interior. It consists of nave and aisles, chancel, a low tower, and a chapel of the Holy Trinity at the end of S. aisle. The nave and S. aisle were rebuilt in the 16th centy., and the choir is of Dec. date, and is lighted by a fine E. window, filled with stained glass. The ch. contains monuments and gravestones to the families of Halliwell, Holt, Chadwick, and Walmealey, also a tablet in memory of *Sir Bertine Entwistle*, who was long in the service of Henries V. and VI. He was present at Agincourt, and eventually killed at the battle of St. Albans, 1455. The original inscription in brass ran thus—“Here lyeth Sir Bertine Entwisel, Knight, who was born in Lancaster-shyre, and was Viscount and Baron of Brybeke, in Normandy ; Bailiff of Constantine, who died fighting in King Henry the Sixth’s party, the 28th May, 1455, on whose soul Jesu have mercy.”

The *Town Hall* is a fine new Gothic building, erected in 1869, from designs by Mr. Crossland. The length of the north front is 220 feet, and the height of the tower 150 feet. There is also a handsome Public Hall of Italian design.

The *Grammar School* is an Elizabethan building on Sparrow Hill, founded by Dr. Parker, 2nd Protestant Archbishop of Canterbury, in 1562. Rochdale has for many years held a position of some notoriety in English politics, from its association with the family of Bright, which owns a large cotton-mill at Field House. The Rt. Hon. John Bright, member for Birmingham, resides at Rochdale, as also does his brother Jacob, M.P. for Manchester. It also has the honour of being the first place in England that started the system of co-operative stores, which present here an important social feature, although it is doubtful

whether they are a financial success in every case. The Equitable Pioneers Soc. number nearly 7000 in their ranks, and the North of England Co-operative Soc. more than 32,000 ; the system is extended to various branches of business, such as corn-mills, land and building, manufactures, &c. The *New Central Store*, at St. Mary’s Gate, cost 10,000L., and is worth seeing. The *clothing trade* took root here at a very early period, “many of the Flemish emigrants in the reign of Edward III. having made their abode in the western part of the parish, where they introduced their craft as clothiers. Two centuries afterwards, Rochdale still continued famous for its woollen manufactures, and the sultan of Queen Elizabeth found it necessary to employ a deputy here for the stamping of woollen cloth, under the authority of the Act passed in 1566.” A large trade too arises from collieries, besides quarries of stone and flags in the neighbourhood ; and facilities of traffic are given by rail into Yorkshire, Manchester, Bury, Bolton, and N. Lancashire ; the Rochdale canal, too, connects Manchester with the Calder navigation at Sowerby Bridge, near Halifax.

The immediate neighbourhood of Rochdale is exceedingly picturesque and interesting. To the S., on the Manchester road, is *Castleton*,—a lofty mound and fosse being all that is left of the old castle ; but a portion of the valley below is called *Kildanes*, from the traditionary story of a number of Danish invaders having been destroyed here. The date of the castle must have been very far back, for the Domesday Survey does not mention even its foundations. Near it are *Castle Mere* (Miss Leigh), and *Castleton Hall* (J. S. Entwistle, Esq.), the old mansion of the *Holts* in 1640. It was formerly in the possession of the *Radclyffes* and *Langleys*, but the house having become ruinous, Robert Holt built the pre-

sent hall. Inside is some tapestry, and some stained-glass windows, with the arms of the Holts and Winstanleys.

Fozholes, in the Wardleworth district (N.-E. of the town), is the seat of the Entwistles, a member of which family was the Sir Bertine to whom the tablet is erected in the ch. *Buckley Hall* (W. W. Schofield, Esq.) is a modern house erected close to the scanty remains of the old hall, the seat of Geoffrey de Buckley, who fell in the battle of Evesham in the reign of Henry III. One of this family, Captain Buckley, fought a duel in 1722 with Major Crooke, in which the latter was killed, and the former found guilty of manslaughter. Near Buckley are *Hamer Hall*, now modernised, but in Edward IV.'s reign the seat of the Hamers or De Heymers, and Howarth or *Howard Hall*, from whence is said to have sprung the original stock of the noble family of Howard.

2½ m. to the N.-E. of the town, on the banks of the canal, is *Clegg Hall*, now an ale-house, but still bearing traces of once having been a fine mansion, built in the 17th centy., by Theophilus Ashton. The original Clegg Hall was an old timbered house erected by Beunulf and Quenilda Clegg, in the reign of Stephen. The present house was the scene of most extraordinary disturbances caused by a "boggart" called "Noman," and the notoriety thus gained extended to the whole neighbourhood till of late years. Beyond Clegg, and near to Littleborough, was *Stubley*, the old mansion of the Holts, but it was pulled down when they migrated to Castleton.

Belfield Hall, near Butterworth, formed part of the possessions of the Knights of St. John of Jerusalem, and came by bequest from the Butterworths to the Townsleys.

Some remains of the old quadrangular court are still to be seen.

On the road to Bacup, 2 m., is *Healey Hall* (J. Tweedale, Esq.), formerly the seat of the Chadwicks of Chadwick. The present house was built in 1783 by John Chadwick, in lieu of an old Elizabethan manor-house, erected by Oliver Chadwick in 1620. "In the remote hamlet of Healey (signifying 'high pasture') dwelt a family, probably of Saxon origin, whose name, De Healey, from their place of residence, had in all likelihood been assumed soon after the Norman conquest. Their descendants of the same name continued to reside here until the reign of Edward III., holding their lands as Abbey lands, under the Abbot of Stanlaw in the reign of Henry II., and subsequently under the Abbot of Whalley from the year 1296. In 1483 John Chadwyke married Alice, eldest daughter and co-heir of Adam Okeden, of Healey, and in his right settled at the mansion of Healey Hall, then a large unsightly structure of wood and plaster, built according to the fashion of those days."—*Roby*. The valley of the *Spodden*, overlooking the l. bank of which is Healey Hall, is charmingly picturesque, even more so than that of the Roch—

"First Roch, a dainty rill, from Rochdale
her dear dame,
Who, honor'd with the half of her stern
mother's name,
Grows proud, yet glad herself into my
banks to get,
Which Spodden from her springs, a pretty
rivulet
As her attendant, brings."—*Drayton*.

and at this particular spot it runs through a narrow wooded glen called the "Thrutch" or Thrust, signifying a deep channel in the rocks. The whole course of the Spodden is very pretty, and may be seen in a walk from Rochdale to Bacup, 7 m.

1½ m. beyond Healey is the village

of *Whitworth*, the ch. of which is cruciform. A local celebrity is attached to this place, from its being the residence of the "Whitworth Doctors," a family which, without possessing any education or qualification for surgical practice, has attained an extraordinary reputation for bone-setting. "For three generations they have exercised their skill in their native village, and right reverend prelates have been found in the crowd which proceeded to this modern Bethesda. The practice of the Whitworth Doctors has been comprehensive enough to embrace dogs, horses, and men; the setting of fractured limbs is now their forte, but they are also famed for the cure of cancerous complaints, scrofula, and tumours of the joint, popularly called white-swellings, which is principally effected by the agency of a powerful caustic application, bearing the appropriate name of 'keen.'"

On the *Darwen* road, $3\frac{1}{2}$ m. is *Wolstenholme Hall*, now a gabled farm-house, but once the residence of the De Wolstenholmes, as far back as the 12th centy. It is said that a custom still exists of the country people meeting at *Knoll Hill*, 1 m. to the N., on the first Sunday in May, and drinking congratulatory bumpers in the spring water, on account of the winter having passed. [The *Bury* road should be followed for the sake of the scenery of the *Roch*. $\frac{3}{4}$ m. *Oakenrod Hall* (A. Royds, Esq.), an old mansion once the seat of the Gartsides. 1 m. *Roch Bank* (R. T. Heape, Esq.). *Chadwick Hall*, the residence of the De Chadwykes, from the time of Edward III. to 1722. 2 m. The *Roch* here runs in a narrow glen, with steep wooded banks, known as *Tyrone's Bed*, from a legend that the Earl of Tyrone, the great Irish leader in the reign of Elizabeth, was in the habit of frequenting the glen as a place of concealment. An old mansion of the

Holts, by name *Grizlehurst*, existed at that time, and it is said that the Earl formed a clandestine attachment to Constance Holt, the daughter of the house. This tale forms one of Roby's 'Traditions of Lancashire.' *Crimble* is the residence of J. Fenton, Esq.

At *Hooley Bridge*, 3 m., the *Naden* joins the *Roch* after flowing through a very picturesque dingle. On the S. bank of the river is *Heywood Hall* (page 187), and overlooking the *Naden* is *Bamsford Hall*, a modern house (J. Fenton, Esq.), but formerly the seat of the De Bamsfords, in the reign of Henry III.

$5\frac{1}{2}$ m. *Bury* (Rte. 30).]

Blvs. from *Rochdale* to *Manchester*, $10\frac{1}{2}$ m.; *Oldham*, $7\frac{1}{2}$; *Todmorden*, 8; *Burnley*, $17\frac{1}{2}$; *Bury*, 6; *Heywood*, 3; *Bolton*, 12 m.

Continuing northwards, the rly. reaches

$13\frac{1}{2}$ m. *Littleborough Stat.* A short distance on the rt. is *Hollingworth Lake*, the great holiday resort of excursion parties from the factory towns, for whose accommodation a good hotel has been built, surrounded by pleasure grounds, and containing the usual paraphernalia of boats and other amusements. The botanist will find here, and on the adjoining hills, *Littorella laerustia*, *Campanula hederacea*, *Anagallis tenella*, *Parmelia saxatilis*, *Atricum laxifolium*, &c. *Littleborough* is a pretty little village at the foot of *Blackstone Edge*, and at the entrance of the gorge of the *Calder*, that forms one of the principal passes into *Yorkshire*.

The church is a small building of debased style, and contains a stained-glass window, which was brought from *Stubble Hall* when it was pulled down. The pedestrian should ascend *Blackstone Edge*, a fine precipitous escarped hill on the rt., on the crest of which runs the *Yorkshire* and

Lancashire boundary. A road strikes up it from Littleborough to Sowerby Bridge, but the steepest part is breasted by a Roman road. From the summit the visitor obtains on a clear day a magnificent view, extending to the Irish Sea and the Welsh mountains, while the whole district in the neighbourhood is wild and broken. On the return to Littleborough, pass *Pike House*, an old seat of the Halliwells, who resided here in the time of Elizabeth.

The rly. soon enters the defile, and attains its summit level at Calderbrook, where there is a tunnel 2860 yards in length. Close to the summit level of the Canal at *Steator Bottom* is a curious old house with an elaborate carving and the following inscription running along its whole length:—

| | |
|-------------|--------------|
| ROMANON | BY MANY |
| BARTICANTE | STROKES THEE |
| LLHETORMENT | WORK IS DONE |
| THATSINEL | THAT COULD |
| 1700 | NOT BE FER |
| | FORMD BY ONE |

The admirer of rock scenery is advised to walk from Littleborough to Todmorden, 5 m.; for which he will be amply repaid. The valley on the rt. is bounded by a series of escarpments, locally called "edges," such as Blackstone Edge, Lightaggles Edge, Stoney and Longfield Edges, on the summits of which is a series of reservoirs communicating with one another, and feeding the Rochdale Canal. The bottom of the glen is occupied by the rly., the road, the canal, and the river.

18½ m. **TODMORDEN JUNG.** The town of *Todmorden* (Inn: Queen's) anciently called *Todmaredene* (= the valley of Foxmere), is most charmingly situated on the banks of the Calder, and at the junction of 3 valleys which are shut in by hills of considerable height. The old

ch. is in a state of decay, and a new one, called *Christ Church*, has been built. It will be remembered in connexion with a terrible tragedy, in which the incumbent and his whole family were murdered by a jealous factory hand. Todmorden is entirely dependent on the manufacture of fustians, satteens, &c. It stands partly in Yorkshire and partly in Lancashire, and near the junction of 4 townships, whose united population, amounting to 16,830, has doubled in 40 years. The *Water-side Cotton Mills* of the Fielden family are amongst the largest in the kingdom. They are flanked on either side by a weaving shop, a room measuring 100 yards by 60 yards, lighted from above by skylights, and filled with 900 or 1000 pair of looms, placed as close together as is possible to allow passage for the 500 hands who attend to them. A bronze statue of Mr. Fielden, by *Foley*, has been erected in the town. *Stanfield Hall* (J. Fielden, Esq.), lies on the slope of the hill overlooking the town. It was probably built about the time of Henry VII., but is much altered and modernised. *Todmorden Hall* (J. Taylor, Esq.), the seat of the Radclyffes, in the 16th and 17th centuries, is an interesting gabled house containing some painted glass and a carved oak mantel-piece, with the arms of the Radclyffes, 1603.

The neighbourhood of Todmorden is full of beautiful and romantic scenery. On *Stoodley Hill*, to the E., is an obelisk erected to commemorate the termination of the Peninsular War. At the breaking out of the Crimean war it tumbled down, but has since been rebuilt.

The main line, which turns off to the rt., runs to Sowerby Bridge, Halifax, and Leeds, while the branch to Burnley keeps sharp to the N.W., ascending the Vale of Calder, and passing L. *Scatcliff* (Mrs. Crossley).

21½ m. *Portsmouth Stat.* The Ir-

well rises in the hills on the l. towards Bacup, about 2 m. distant. *Portsmouth House* (J. Green, Esq.).

23½ m. *Holme Stat.* The *ch.* contains a memorial window and vault of the Whitaker family, two of whose most celebrated members were Dr. Whitaker, the antiquary and historian of Whalley Abbey; and his predecessor and namesake, Dr. William Whitaker, Master of St. John's College, Cambridge, and Regius Professor of Divinity in 1579. He was a strong Calvinist, and of rather intolerant views, though Bishop Hall calls him "the honour of our schools and the angel of our church, than whom our age saw nothing more memorable." *The Holme* (T. H. Whitaker, Esq.), which lies to the rt. of the rly., has been the residence of this family since 1431. The house was originally built of wood, but has lost most of its character by successive alterations. Even up to 1717 the W. wing remained in its original state, and was noted for the number of hiding places it contained for priests. Great improvements were made in the last centy. by planting, nearly half a million of trees having been planted by the then owner. The whole district is remarkable for its rocky and stony character, from which it obtained the Anglo-Saxon name of *Cliviger*—a rocky place. It gives rise to the Irwell and to both the Calders, which, springing from the same marsh, flow in opposite directions, and fall into different seas. Between Portsmouth and Holme the scenery is rugged and broken, the steep "cloughs" in rainy weather being occupied by waterfalls of very respectable dimensions. The chief of these ravines are (going west) Redwater Clough, Beater Clough, Rotton Clough, Earl's Bower, and Doddbottom Gully. The antiquary should ascend the hills above Holme House, and cross

the Moor to the *Long Causeway*, a mountain-road between Burnley and Mytholm Bridge. A succession of stones inscribed with crosses marks the way, and are named Stiperden, Duke's, Maiden, and Stump Crosses. The Long Causeway was the road by which the Lacies travelled in their progresses from Pontefract to Clitheroe and Lancaster. The pedestrian can proceed thus to Burnley, passing *Ormerod Hall* (Rev. J. Thursby). The house was erected at the latter end of the 16th centy., and has the names of the founder, Lawrence Ormerod, and his wife carved upon it. From thence it descended to the Hargreaves, and through the daughters of that family to the Thursbys. Close to and on the E. side of Ormerod is *Hurst Wood*, an old house belonging to the Townleys, who married into the Ormerod family; and adjoining it is '*Spenser's House*,' where the poet is said to have retired when he left Cambridge, and to have written '*The Shepherdes Calendar*.'

The rly. continues its course up the valley, passing rt. *Barcroft*, an old house of the 17th centy., belonging to the Bradshaws; and the beautiful park of *Towneley* (Colonel Towneley), a fine old house with wings and towers. It was once quadrangular, but the N.E. side, containing the chapel, gateway, sacristy, and library, the work of Sir J. Towneley (temp. Henry VII.), has been long demolished. On the S.W. is the hall, and a west wing was added by the present owner. The interior contains a number of family portraits, including one of Richard Towneley, 1598, who was so long a wanderer in foreign countries that, on his return, he was recognised only by his dog; Christopher Towneley, the antiquary, 1603; Charles Towneley, slain at Marston Moor; and C. Towneley, the collector of marbles. There are also casts of these marbles now in the British Mu-

seum, and known as the Towneley Collection, for which 20,000*l.* was paid. "In this collection there is not a single statue, bust, or basso-relievo, which does not rise far above mediocrity; and with the exception of some seven or eight subjects beyond the hope or possibility of present attainment, it certainly contains the finest specimens of ancient art yet remaining in the world." The vestments of the chapel are said to have been brought from Whalley Abbey. The Towneleys claim to have been settled here since the time of Alfred. During the Civil Wars they were staunch Royalists, Charles Towneley, the head of the family in 1644, having been killed in the battle of Marston Moor. 26½ m. *Towneley Stat.*, overlooking the park, and the town of 27 m. *Burnley* [(*Inn*: Bull, bad). (Rte. 33.)

ROUTE 30.

MANCHESTER TO ACCRINGTON BY BURY AND HASLINGDEN.

The traveller leaves Manchester by the Victoria Terminus (Lancashire and Yorkshire system), the rly. parting company with the Liverpool line immediately after crossing the bridge over the Irwell. [*Shropshire, &c.*]

½ m. *Salford Stat.* was for many years the Manchester terminus.

2½ m. *Pendleton Stat.* The Peel Park is a little on the rt. Emerging from the cuttings, exceedingly pretty views are gained of the wooded heights of Broughton, Kersal Moor, and the windings of the Irwell.

The neighbourhood of Pendleton on the l. is a favourite one for residential purposes, and particularly in the prettily wooded district between Eccles and Swinton Park. Amongst the seats here are *Hope Hall* (Sir E. Armitage), described as an ancient house in 1595, but rebuilt; *Acesfield* (E. Heywood, Esq.); *Claremont* (Oliver Heywood, Esq.), &c.

1½ m. from Pendleton, on the Bolton road, is the village of *Pendlebury* and *Pendlebury House* (J. A. Turner, Esq.). Still further is

Swinton, where is the fine range of buildings of the *Industrial Schools*, opened in 1846, affording accommodation for nearly 1000 children. Close to the rly., beyond Pendlebury on l., is *Agecroft Hall*, an interesting old wood and plaster hall of the reign of Elizabeth. It is quadrangular, and is entered by an archway into a courtyard. Notice the fine oriel timber window with its richly carved bracket. In the interior is much good woodwork, and some stained glass with the arms of the Langleys and John o' Gaunt. The Langleys were its original possessors, and it passed from them in 1561 to the family of Dautesey, and is now held by John Buck Dautesey, Esq. At the bottom of the hill the Irwell is crossed by *Agecroft Bridge*, which leads to Kersal Moor and the Manchester race-course. It is mentioned by Leland, who speaks of it as a "Bridge veri long and greate of tymbre on Irwel." On the opposite side of the river is *Kersal Cell*, the old seat of the Byroms, still occupied by their descendant, Miss Atherton;

and a little higher up the stream is *Irwell House* (B. Whitworth, Esq.). The course of the river through this valley is one of considerable beauty, even though its waters are none of the clearest. That this defilement is of no very modern date is shown by the MSS. notes of Mr. Rasbotham, made in 1786, who says, "The river hath trout, shoulders, chubs, dace, gudgeons, and eels. Salmon came up it before the establishment of the fishery at Warrington, higher than this township; but there is no such thing experienced at present"

At $4\frac{1}{2}$ m. rt. CLIFTON JUNC. the Bolton line turns off to the l. The tourist will perceive by the long trains of coal trucks and the numerous chimneys and winding engines, that he is traversing the Lancashire *coal-field*. The district between Manchester, Bolton, and Bury, contains some splendid coal seams, the principal of which are the Woraley, 4 ft., the Treacher Bone coal, the Cannel mine and the Arley mine, all of which have yielded to the geologist a large quantity of fossil fishes (see *Introduction*). Mr. Binyey, of Manchester, has been and still is a most active scientific labourer in this direction. *Clifton Hall* (J. Fletcher, Esq.). At *Woodgate*, a little higher up, Ainsworth, of Latin dictionary renown, was born.

The rly. to Bury now crosses the Irwell and the Bolton Canal, leaving on rt. *Outwood Park* (H. N. Phillips, Esq.).

On the l. of the rly. and on the bank of the river is *Rhodes farm*, of which a curious story is told in Watson's MSS. :—"Rhodes, of Rhodes, leaving his estate, and it being land of inheritance, and lying within the manor of Pilkington, then belonging to Sir John Pilkington, the knight, desirous of purchasing the estate, applied to Rhodes; but he, being unwilling to

part with it, refused to sell. The estate is of considerable length, and is bounded by the river Irwell for more than a mile, and at the extremity of the land stood a cow-house, of which Rhodes made use as a shelter for young cattle during the winter, but at other times it was disused. Into this building, it is said, Sir John ordered some of his own cattle to be put and locked them up there, giving out that they were stolen, and offered a reward accordingly. Some time passed before the cattle were found. At length, as had been concerted, some of Sir John's people found them in the cow-house, and proceedings in law were commenced immediately against Rhodes for this pretended robbery, against which he defended himself; but the fact of the cattle having been locked up in his building being notorious, and the presumption of his being privy, if not a principal to the concealment, was evidence so strong against Rhodes, that he was obliged to come upon terms with Sir John, which caused the loss of his inheritance. Sir John afterwards forfeited the manor of Pilkington: this, in those days, was called a just judgment, and believed to be inflicted upon him for the above treachery." Close to Rhodes is *Molyneux*, once the residence of the Mullineux family.

$5\frac{1}{2}$ m. *Molyneux Brow Stat.*

7 m. *Bingley Road Stat.*

8 m. *Radcliffe Bridge Stat.*, where the Irwell, which makes a considerable détour to the W. is crossed again by the rly., and also by a turnpike-road bridge of 3 arches. To the rt. and on the N. bank of the river is the ancient village of *Radcliffe*, so called in Saxon from the red rock or cliff which overhangs the Irwell just below its confluence with the Roch. In Saxon times Edward the Confessor held *Radcliffe*, and bestowed it on Roger de

Poictou, who forfeited it soon after the Domesday Survey. It then remained with the Crown till Stephen's reign, when it was given to Ranulph de Gernons, Earl of Chester. In the reign of Henry II. we first hear of a De Radeclive, and for many generations that family played an important part in Lancashire history, Sir Richard de Radcliffe being seneschal and minister of the Royal Forests of Blackburnshire. Of his two sons, Sir John the younger was the ancestor of the Radclyffes of Foxdenton (Rte. 28), while from Sir William the elder, usually styled the "Great William," descended the Barons of Fitzwalter and Earls of Sussex. Sir John was himself known as knight of Ordshall, from having his estate there; and one of his successors, also Sir John Radclyffe of Ordshall, lost five sons in different battles within two years, 1598-99. In the same year, too, his daughter, a maid of honour to Queen Elizabeth, died of grief for loss of her brothers. Of the family of Radclyffe was the unfortunate Earl of Derwentwater, 1687, whose title became forfeited through his adherence to the Stuart cause.

"An unbroken male descent for a period nearly coeval with, if not previous to the conquest—their intermarryings with some of the noblest families of England—their deeds of valour on the battle-field, their wisdom in the council chamber, sufficiently attest their antiquity and importance—whilst the mere record of their dignities proves the high rank they enjoyed. The house of Radclyffe produced 14 Earls, 1 Viscount, 5 Barons, 7 Knights of the Garter, 1 Lord Deputy of Ireland, 2 Ambassadors, several Bannerets and Knights of the Bath, along with many Privy Counsellors, warriors, and Statesmen."—*Burke*. In Henry IV.'s reign, James Radclyffe had permission to enclose his manor house of Radclyffe, "and those

walls, hall, and towers so made, to krennell and embattle." It is now in ruins; but even in decay shows traces of strong masonry. Only the lower story is left, a sycamore tree occupying the place of the others. The old hall adjoining the tower, of brick and timber, has been taken down to make room for a row of modern cottages.

Radclyffe possesses to this day the tradition of a terrible tragedy, which is told in Percy's *Reliques*. One Sir William de Radclyffe had a very beautiful daughter, whose mother died in giving her birth. He married again, and the stepmother conceived a violent hatred to the girl, whom she sent one day, when Sir William was out hunting, into the kitchen, with a message to the cook that he must dress the white doe. The cook professed ignorance of the particular white doe he was to dress, and asserted that he was ordered to kill the daughter, which he did, and made her into a pie. When Sir William came home, he asked for his daughter, and the wife declared that she had gone into a nunnery. Whereupon the scullion boy denounced the stepmother, and warned Sir William against eating the pie. The cruel woman was burnt, and the cook was condemned to stand in boiling lead, but the scullion boy was made heir to Sir William's possessions. The story is communicated in a ballad in the Pepys' collection called, "The Lady Isabella's Tragedy; or, the Stepmother's Cruelty;" but by other antiquaries, such as Roby and Baines, and in the Lancashire ballads, it is called "Fair Ellen of Radcliffe." It is most graphically told:—

She strayhte into the kitchen went
Her message for to tell:
And then she spied the master cook
Who did with malice swell.

"Nowe, master cooke, it must be soe,
Do that which I thee tell;
You needs must dress the milk-white doe
Which you do knowe full well."

Then strayt his cruel, bloody hands
He on the ladye laid,
Who quivering and ghastly stands,
While thus to her he say'd,

"Thou art the doe that I must dress,
See here, behold, my knife;
For it is pointed, presentill
To ridd thee of thy life."

O then, cryed out the scullion boye
As loud as loud might be
"O, save her life, good master cook,
And make your pyes of me."

Radcliffe Ch. is of Norm. date, coeval with the building of the tower. It is cruciform, and consists of nave with aisles, N. and S. transept, chancel, and tower. The N. transept and chancel are of modern date, but the S. transept, called the "Sun" chapel or chantry is of the date of the 15th centy. In the interior are some good modern memorial windows of stained glass, and some interesting *old glass*, some of which is almost obliterated. The subjects are the arms of Radclyffe, with the head of a queen; another has the head of a king, which may be a portrait of Edward III.; on another window on the W. is a painting of St. John the Evangelist. The monument of James de Radclyffe and his lady, which was of alabaster, has unfortunately disappeared, owing in a great measure to the excessive veneration with which the people regarded it, which prompted them to break off bits, that they might keep them as amulets.

Near Radcliffe Bridge is *St. Thomas's*, a modern ch. from a singular design by *Wyatt*, of an eastern Pagoda.

Soon after leaving Radcliffe, the Irwell is once more crossed, and the visitor arrives at

10½ m. *Bury Stat.*

[Bury may also be reached from Manchester by omnibus, which starts several times a day from Hanging Ditch and Hyde's Cross. It follows the road to Broughton, passing the Assize Courts, and through a

succession of villas and residences, which become larger and more ambitious, the further they are from Manchester.

4½ m. *Prestwich.* The ch., of New Red sandstone, overlooking the Irwell, consists of nave, side aisles, chancel, and chapels at the end of the aisles called the Wilton and Lever chapels. The parish of Prestwich is of great extent, being at least 15 m. in length, and embracing the town of Oldham, which was formed into a chapelry of this parish in the reign of Edward III. "The population and wealth of the neighbourhood increased so fast as to induce the papal nuncio in 1465 to establish in Manchester a sale of indulgences." The *Rectory* is now a modern house, but the old one, taken down in 1840, was the residence of successive rectors from 1485. It was always called the Deyne (Saxon "den") from its position at the edge of a small clough or valley. A little to the rt. of the village is *Heaton Hall*, the beautiful seat of the Earl of Wilton. The house, from designs by *Wyatt*, has an Ionic portico, and is placed in a finely wooded park, 5 m. in circumference. Heaton originally belonged to the Langleys and the Hollands, from whom it passed by marriage to the family of Egerton, one of whom, Sir Thomas Grey Egerton, was created Baron Grey de Wilton in 1784.

The County Lunatic Asylum is situated at Prestwich.

6 m., at Whitefield or *Stand* there is a handsome modern ch., of the date of the 14th centy. "The old hall of the Pilkingtons at Stand, forming the Stand in the park, from whence the place derives its name, and which, according to tradition, was originally a story higher than at present, with a flat roof, for the purpose of witnessing

the hunting below, is still existing, and near it is a large barn, erected from the remains of a neighbouring chapel, which contains some curiously carved oak principals, still in good preservation. The roof of the barn, which is also of ancient carved oak, exactly resembles the roof of the S. aisle of Prestwich ch."

—*Baines*. At Blackford Bridge the road crosses the Irwell, and passes the old house of *Starkies*. *Retrales* is another old mansion, of the date of 1628.]

8 m. *Bury* (*Hotel*: Derby), is a busy manufacturing town of considerably over 30,000 inhabitants, though in 1793 it did not contain 3000. Nevertheless, it is by no means a modern town, for it is mentioned as having been held by the Lacies soon after the Conquest, together with the lordship of Blackburnshire.

Leland, too, speaks of it as "Byri on Irwell, iv or v miles from Manchester, but a poor market. There is a ruine of a castel by the paroch church yn the towne." Even the ruins of this castle have disappeared, and on its site a Volunteer armoury has arisen. Remains, however, have frequently been dug up, and the foundations have been traced. The church, although a handsome building, does not contain any special feature of interest, the nave having been rebuilt at the commencement of the present centy., and the tower in 1843. At the back of the ch. is a steep and rather precipitous descent, at the foot of which the Irwell is said to have flowed, previous to the diversion of its course. *St. John's Ch.* is worth visiting, for the sake of the screen with a painting of the Ascension, by *Murray*, a native artist. Other modern buildings are the Town Hall and Athenæum, forming part of a handsome block adjoining the Derby Hotel, to the erection of which the Earl of Derby,

as chief landowner, largely contributed.

Bury contains a good *Free School*, founded by Roger Kay, Prebendary of Salisbury in 1726; and also a *Choristers' School*, in which boys are thoroughly grounded in music.

In the market-place is a bronze statue, by *Bailey*, of Sir Robert Peel, the statesman, placed there in 1851. Bury is largely indebted to the family of Peel for its prosperity. The first Sir Robert Peel had extensive works here for calico-printing, and resided for many years at *Chamber Hall* (W. H. Price, Esq.), where his son, the future Prime Minister of England, was born. Bury first figures as a manufacturing town in the reign of Henry VIII., although then principally for woollens. In the reign of Elizabeth it had attained great importance, so much so, "that an aulneger was appointed at Bury by Act of Parliament to stamp woollen cloth, for the purpose of preventing it being unduly stretched on the tenters;" so that it seems that commercial frauds are not limited to our own day. In the last centy. a family of the name of *Kay* lived here, one of whom invented the mode of throwing the shuttle, by means of the "picking-peg" instead of by the hand; and this was followed up by an invention of his sons in the shape of the drop-box, by which the weaver can use any of these shuttles at will, and thus weave a fabric of colours as easily as a common calico.

A further improvement in cotton-spinning was made in 1791 by Mr. Whitehead, the postmaster of Bury, consisting in "piecing" the ends of the perpetually breaking threads while the machine was in motion.

Amongst Bury worthies of earlier date may be mentioned *John Warburton*, born 1681, a celebrated antiquary and Somerset herald.

Rail from Bury to Manchester, 10½ m.; Heywood, 3½; Rochdale, 6;

Haslingden, 9; Accrington, 12½; Blackburn, 17; Bacup, 12; Bolton, 6; Wigan, 15½.

The line to Haslingden and Rosendale keeps due N., following the E. bank of the Irwell, and passing

1½ m. *Walmesley*, near which, on the bank of the river, is an earthwork, known as *Castle Steads*. To the l. is *Brandlesholme Hall*, now a farmhouse, but once the residence of the Greenhalghes in the reign of Richard II. A little further W. is *Tottington*, which, although now an insignificant village, was the seat of the Imperial Court, to which the manors of Bury, Middleton, Chaderton, and Alkington did suit and service. The manor of Tottington was given to General Monk as a reward for his services during the Restoration, and is now enjoyed by the Duke of Buccleuch as heir to the Albemarle estates.

13 m. *Summerseat Stat.* The valley now begins to close in and becomes extremely picturesque. On rt. on the hill above is a prospect tower, erected by the Messrs. Grant, with whose name the interests and prosperity of this valley are so deeply associated. The visitor will feel equally interested when he knows that the two brothers Grant were the originals of the "Brothers Cheeryble" in 'Nicholas Nickleby.'

2 m. E. of Summerseat is *Cob House*, the residence of the brave Captain Kay in 1644.

On l., under the shoulder of *Holcombe Moor*, is the village of *Holcombe*, most charmingly situated, and possessing a pretty Dec. modern ch. *Holcombe Hill*, which rises in steep terraces above, is surmounted by a lofty tower, erected to the memory of Sir Robert Peel, which, from its position, is a landmark for many miles both E. and W. *Nettall Hall* was the old seat of the De Notoghs (temp. Richard II.), and

after passing through many hands, is now, by purchase, in those of the Grant family.

14½ m. *Bamsbottom (Inn: Grant Arms)*. This is a busy little manufacturing village, principally dependent on the cotton-mills of the Messrs. Ashton, and the print-works of the Grants, who have erected a Scotch ch. The scenery is extremely pretty, and the visitor should ascend *Holcombe Hill* from here, and if he choose, cross to *Over Darwen*, on the Bolton and Blackburn line (Rte. 32).

15 m. *GRUBBINS JUNC.* with the Bacup and Rosendale line (Rte. 81), with which the main line keeps parallel for a little distance, though gradually attaining a higher level. On the rt. is the *Tbr Hill*, conspicuous for its oval form; and *Musbury Hill*, which was formerly enclosed for the lord's deer. On the l. is the flat-topped hill of *Coups Law*, where horse-races were once held.

At *Helmshore (Stat.)* there are a few cotton and fulling mills.

19½ m. *Haslingden (Inn: Commercial)*, has a busy population of nearly 11,000, which finds employment in the various cotton-mills of the town and the stone quarries in the neighbourhood. There is very little to see in it; the ch. having been rebuilt at the end of the last century. During some repairs in 1857, a skull and cross-bones were dug up, the latter having gilding upon them. These were probably relics of St. James, the patron saint, which were hidden on the visit of the Charity Commissioners, who found only "ii lyttel belles" and ornaments to the value of 7s. 6d. It contains a memorial E. window to Mrs. Hoyle, and a font (date 1540) with the arms of the Holden and Towneley families upon it. A curious mention of the

early church at Haslingden is made in the 'Iter Lancastrense,' a poem written in 1636 by the Rev. Richard James, and printed by the Chetham Society, from a MS. in the Bodleian Library. In the course of his excursion to Pendle occur the following quaint lines:—

" Churches faire doe stand
In layman's lands, and chappels have no
land
To cherish learned curates, though Sir Jhon
Doe preach for foure pounds unto Hae-
lington;
Such yeerly rent with right of begging
corne
Makes Jhon a sharer in my Ladle's home.
He drinks and prayes, and 40 yeeres this
life'
Leading at home, keeps children and a
wife.
These are y^e wonders of our careless dayes:
Small store serves him who for y^e people
prayeres."

Holden Hall, 1 m. S.W., now a farmhouse, was a manor-house of great antiquity, and believed to be the residence of Robert de Haslingden in the 15th century. The scenery in the vicinity of Haslingden (the town of the hazles) is of rather a sombre character, the hills, although of tolerable height, possessing but little diversity of outline. They are of carboniferous sandstone age, and have evidently been much acted on by denudation. The views on the north, towards Pendle Hill and Padiham, are picturesque, and betoken that the visitor is approaching the bold ranges of mountains which characterise North Lancashire. To the S. is the valley of the Irwell, terminated in the distance by the Derbyshire hills, and westwards the eye wanders over Amounderness and the Irish Channel. The manufactures of Haslingden consist principally of woollen goods, of the class called backings, domettes, flannels, and calicoes.

20½ m. *Baxenden Stat.* On rt. is the *Lawnd* (J. Worsley, Esq.).

23 m. *ACCRINGTON JUNC.* (Rte. 38).

ROUTE 31.

FROM BURY TO BURNLEY BY BACUP AND ROSENDALE.

As far as *STUBBINS JUNC.*, see last route. The Bacup branch follows the course of the Irwell, at a lower level than the main line, to Accrington. On rt. is the straggling village of *Edenfield*.

6½ m. *Kwood Bridge Stat.*

8 m. *Rawtenstall (Inn: Queen's)*, was, in the reign of Edward II., one of the eleven *vaccaries* (now known as cow pastures or *booths*) into which the Forest of Rosendale was divided, and which were valued at 10s. each, although they subsequently became very much more. It is now a busy little cotton town of 7000 inhabitants, with regular and well-built streets, the whole place bearing a prosperous and contented aspect. The traveller has now fairly entered the precincts of the *Forest of Rosendale*, one of the four that at the time of the Conquest made up the Forest of Blackburnshire, and containing about 30 square miles, or 19,505 statute acres. "The forests were at that time not comprised within the limits of any township, or other subdivision of property or estate, and being with-

out paramount owner, were naturally claimed by the first Norm. barons or other dignitaries, the favourites and followers of the Conqueror, who would readily endorse their title thereto, in consideration of fealty and distinguished services."—*Newbigging*. The Honours of Clitheroe and Lancaster were given to Roger de Poitou, third son of Roger de Montgomery, Earl of Arundel and Shrewsbury, but they were soon forfeited, owing to his taking part in several rebellions. The Honour of Lancaster was then given to Stephen, and that of Clitheroe to the family of Lacy. Passing by marriage into the House of Lancaster, they became royal property, until they were bestowed by Charles II., at his restoration, on Gen. Monk, Duke of Albemarle, from whom they have descended to the Duke of Buccleuch, the present Lord of the Honour. A considerable portion of the Forest of Rossendale was given by the De Lacies to the Abbots of Whalley, a document, dated 1361, being in existence, "that the chase of Rossendale with Accrington, for herbage and other profits beyond the feeding of beasts of chase, is worth by the year 20*l.* 2*s.*" In Henry VII.'s reign a commission was issued which resulted in partitioning the forest lands, and thus giving a great impetus to cultivation, many people becoming owners of copyholds on the strength of the commission. The value of property increased until the reign of James I., when the Crown lawyers discovered that the title was bad, and thus inflicted a terrible blow on the many families who had settled here. But, after an immense amount of litigation, the matter was settled by an Act arranging for the confirmation of the titles by the payment of 40 years' rent, half of which was paid during James I.'s reign, and the other half in 1650.

The association of Rossendale Forest with wild animals is shown by the frequency of names connected with them, such as Boarsgrease, Hoghead, Swinshaw, Wolfstone, Deerplay, Roecliff, Harthill, and others. It was consequently a favourite hunting ground, and subject to the rigorous laws then in operation. In ancient times the following rhymed oath was taken by every inhabitant residing within the forest and being of the age of 12 years:—

"You shall true Liege man be
Unto the King's Majestie:
Unto the beasts of the Forest you shall no
hurt do,
Nor to anything that doth belong there-
unto:
The offences of others you shall not conceal,
But to the utmost of your power, you shall
them reveal
Unto the officers of the forest,
Or to them who may see them redrest:
All these things you shall see done
So help you God at his holy doom."
Newbigging.

The forest was governed by Greaves, or Reeves, whose duty it was to uphold the forest laws, to apprehend vagrants and robbers, and generally to superintend the affairs of the district very much as parish officers have to do nowadays. At present Rossendale is a forest only in name, the greater part of it being under cultivation as moorland farms. The geological formation is that of the Lower Coalmeasures, which crop out in various places. The highest elevation is that of *Whittle Hill*, 1534 ft., which, with *Coupe Law*, 1438, lies a little to the S. of Rawstenstall. Although the scenery is not very romantic, it is wild and open, and contains many a charming "clough" and sequestered glen.

Soon after quitting Rawstenstall, the rly. passes on l. the mill of *Hareholme*, one of the earliest in the district, and originally built for a worsted manufactory, but now used for cotton.

10 m. *Newchurch*, on high ground to the l. of the rly., is a thriving village, dependent on the cotton-trade. The modern *ch.* (1824) superseded an old chapel of the time of Henry VIII., respecting the building of which there is a tradition that its founders three times attempted to place it in another locality, but that each time, the materials were deposited at the present site in the course of the night. A similar story is told of the churches of Burnley and Rochdale. In the churchyard is a curious epitaph to the memory of John Kershaw and his wife, who founded the grammar school in 1700:—

"They lived long beloved,
And dy'd bewail'd,
And two estates
Upon one school entail'd."

Clough Fold Chapel, near *Newchurch*, was the scene of the labours of Dr. Watts, the author of the hymns that bear his name. A modern *ch.* has been built at *Waterfoot*, near the rly.

10½ m. *Stackstead* is the *stat.* for the village of *Tunstead (Inn: Commercial)*, the inhabitants of which are occupied in cotton and woollen spinning. The *ch.* is modern. Near the village are *Fern Hill (Mrs. Ormerod)* and *Heath Hill (R. Munn, Esq.)*.

Following up the valley of the *Irwell*, the terminus of the line is reached at *Bacup (Inn: Railway)*, a thriving though irregularly-built town at the foot of the moors, in which the river takes its rise. Although in size and importance the metropolis of *Rosscendale*, it is not so old a place as either *Goodshaw* or *Newchurch*, the few people who lived at *Bacup* at the close of the last centy. being obliged to go to church or chapel at *Newchurch*, by a road still called "the *Kirk Gate*." It has now, however, a population of nearly 18,000, em-

ployed in cotton-spinning, woollen manufacture, and dye works. There are three churches, none of which possess any interest, except that of *St. Saviour*, which has a baptistery. Co-operative stores find great favour in *Bacup*, there being a large establishment in the town, in addition to four others in the suburbs. "The capital invested in co-operative cotton factories in *Rosscendale* and the immediate neighbourhood amounts to nearly half a million of money; and the shareholders range from 8000 to 10,000."

The antiquary will find, on the hill-side overlooking the very pretty dingle that leads to *Burnley*, an ancient earthwork, known as *The Dikes*. "It measures more than 1800 ft. in length, is situated at the edge of a gentle slope, and has a trench at least 54 ft. broad at the bottom. From its position it is capable of protecting a large army in front, but it is easily accessible from the E., and must have been abandoned by its defenders whenever the enemy had turned their flank. Its construction can only have been suggested by temporary necessities, since it has evidently been abandoned in an unfinished state."—*Wilkinson*.

Mr. *Wilkinson*, in an elaborate paper read before the *Historic Soc. of Lancashire and Cheshire*, considers that this place was the locale of the *Battle of Brunanburh*, between the Saxon troops of *Athelstan* and the conjoined forces of the *Danes, Welsh, and Scotch*, under the Danish chief *Anlaf*. The Saxons were victorious in the affray, which was very sanguinary, resulting in the loss of five sea-kings and seven jarls.

Rail from Bacup:—Newchurch, 2 m.; Bury, 12 m. Coaches to Rochdale, 7 m.

It is a charming mountain walk of 7 m. to *Burnley*, the road running through a prettily-wooded dingle,

passing on l. The Dikes and rt. *Broad-lough* (J. Whitaker, Esq.).

As the way ascends, the woodland ceases, and the traveller emerges on the open moor, with its invigorating breeze. In the hollow a little to the rt., 2 m. from the town is the *Sources* of the *Irwell*, described by Harrison as "a notable water that riseth above Bacup and goeth thence to Rossendale." The district in which it rises, though to all intents and purposes part of Rossendale Forest, is geographically in Cliviger, a wild moorland extending northwards, the inhabitants of which are said to have removed these landmarks further south than they were entitled to, and thus gained for themselves a considerable portion of Rossendale. Various explanations of the name Irwell have been given. Ir Gael, or the Western Torrent, has been suggested by Whitaker, the historian of Manchester; Ere well, or spring in the hoar (frost), by Whitaker, the antiquary of Whalley; while Mr. Newbigging, in his 'History of Rossendale,' considers it to be derived from Eirè, one of the old Celtic deities. Whatever be its origin, the Irwell is one of the most remarkable streams in Great Britain, from the great value of its waters for manufacturing purposes, and the enormous trade which has been attracted to its banks in its comparatively short course.

At the top of the hill the road turns, leaving on rt. *Thieveley Pike*, 1474 ft., one of the highest of the Rossendale hills. From the summit, on a clear day, the view is very fine, extending over Musbury and Holcombe Hills and Coupe Law; E. over Black Hambleton and Blackstone Edge; to the N. and N.W. over Pendle Hill, Ingleborough and Penyghent. Towards the Lancashire plain the spectator beholds "a succession of swelling moorlands succeeding each other

until lost on the far horizon, preserving throughout a striking general uniformity of elevation, and presenting the appearance of an extensive undulating table-land. Were he further to extend his researches and cross over this large expanse of elevated moorland, he would find that it is intersected by numerous deep, narrow, tortuous channels running in various directions, and cut into the hard grit rocks below, through which flows the water collected on the uplands, and to whose eroding action, combined with other subaërial agencies, they evidently owe their existence."—*Atiken*. Thieveley Pike was formerly one of the old beacon stations, and still shows traces of the circular bed of stones in which the beacon was lighted. Further on, at the foot of *Dirpley* (= Deerplay) *Hill*, a road from Newchurch falls in. A very charming "clough" or wooded dingle opens into the valley of the Calder, and, passing Towneley Hall (Col. Towneley), the traveller reaches 7 m. Burnley (Rts. 33).

ROUTE 32.

FROM MANCHESTER TO CLITHEROE
BY BOLTON, BLACKBURN, AND
WHALLEY.

From Manchester to Bolton, the traveller proceeds by the Lancashire

and Yorkshire Rly., the Bury line branching off to the rt. at

4½ m. CLIFTON JUNC. (see Rte. 30), from which point the rly. runs N.W., following the valley of the Irwell as far as Farnworth.

7½ *Stonelough Stat.* On the opposite side of the river (on rt.) is the village of *Bingley*, forming part of the township of Pilkington. There are handsome new churches both at *Bingley* and *Prestolee*, a little higher up. The latter contains some excellent stained glass, and it is worth notice that the W. window, which cost 200*l.*, was contributed by the operatives of the cotton-mills belonging to the Crompton family, who were mainly instrumental in building the ch.

8½ m. *Halshaw Moor Stat.* On l. is the long straggling village of *Farnworth*, the inhabitants of which are principally employed in the adjacent collieries. The little river *Tonge*, with its tributary streams, the *Uroal* and *Bradshaw*, here fall into the *Irwell*, the latter river making an abrupt turn as it flows N.E. from *Radeliffe* and *Bury*. Overlooking it are *Birch House* (W. Hayman, Esq.), and *Darley Hall* (W. Hargreaves, Esq.). The former house was built in the reign of Charles I., and was originally the seat of the *Rishtons*, from whom it came into the hands of the *Dorning*s and, subsequently, the *Rasbothams*, a member of which family, Mr. *Dorning Rasbotham*, was a well-known Lancashire antiquary and man of literary attainments in 1769. *Farnworth Old Hall*, a half timbered house of the early part of the 16th centy., and the residence of a branch of the *Hulston* family in Charles II.'s reign, is now a workman's cottage.

In this township was born, 1544, *Dr. Bancroft*, Archbishop of Canterbury, and one of the Lords of the

Privy Council to James I., who obtained his promotion to a canonry of Canterbury as a reward for a learned sermon against the Puritans. His appointment, says *Strype*, "which met with considerable opposition, was owing in a great measure to the activity and exertions of the Archbishop and the Lord Treasurer. Some, indeed, had represented him as inclined to popery, but his high character and deserts were properly set forth by his Grace's orders, and sent to court. It was stated that his conversation had been without blame in the world, having never been complained of, detected, or, for aught he knew, suspected of any extraordinary enormity. He had been a preacher against popery above 24 years, and was certainly no papist." It was to Archbishop *Bancroft* that *Lambeth Palace* is indebted for the famous library, which he founded and bequeathed to his successors.

In the peat of *Kerley Moss*, a little to the S., bog oak has been found, the relics of the ancient forest that covered it.

9 m. *Mosses' Gate Stat.*

11 m. BOLTON JUNC., from which radiate lines to *Bury*, *Blackburn*, *Wigan*, *Leigh*, and *Manchester*.

Bolton (*Hotel: Swan*), is one of the busiest, dirtiest, and most unprepossessing towns in Lancashire, but there are many features of interest in the neighbourhood. Like most of the manufacturing towns, its population increased with marvellous rapidity, from 41,000 in 1801 to over 130,000 in 1861.

In Saxon times it was named *Boltune* or *Bothel-tun*, a town adjoining a manor-house, and had the prefix of "le Moors" to distinguish it from *Bolton* on the *Sands*. The manor was sold by *Roger de Meresheia*, in the reign of *Stephen*, to *Randle le Blundeville*, for 200 marks and a pair of white gloves

annually at Easter. It then came by marriage into the possession of the Earls of Ferrers, but Robert de Ferrers, the 8th Earl of Derby, having forfeited his estates, in 1266, they were granted to the Earl of Lancaster. But by an injunction in the reign of Edward I., they would seem to have again come into the possession of the Derby family; and, notwithstanding the untoward events of the 17th centy., that family still possesses much property in the manor.

In the battle of Flodden Field, the fame of the Bolton men, who fought under Sir Edward Stanley, is celebrated in language which conveys a strong impression of their courage and prowess :

"Wth fellows feare and fresh for feight
 Wth Halton felids did turne in foeres
 Wth Iustie ladds lim and light
 From Blackborne and Bolton in ye Moores."
Baines.

The most eventful portion of the history of Bolton happened during the Civil Wars, when it was garrisoned for the Parliament, and attacked by the Earl of Derby's forces from Wigan, who endeavoured to carry it by assault. After great carnage the enemy was beaten off, and the Governor reinforced from Manchester. But the attack was renewed on the 28th of May, 1644, by Prince Rupert, at the head of 10,000 men, and the Earl of Derby, who had joined him from the Isle of Man. The garrison consisted of 3000 men, under Colonel Rigby. At first the issue was doubtful, but the Earl, at the head of 200 picked men, got up to the walls while the cavalry, it is said, were treacherously admitted by a townsman. The slaughter of the townspeople was terrible, and it was alleged that 4 ministers of religion were put to the sword; and that an officer, named Captain Booth, was killed, after quarter had been asked for and granted. Subsequent inquiry, however, seems to have proved

that the ministers escaped with their lives. In the battle of Worcester, which was so disastrous to the forces and hopes of Charles II., the Earl of Derby was taken, and sent down to be executed at Bolton, as a sort of retributive punishment for the excesses with which he was accused at the siege 7 years previously. On the 11th October, 1651, he was beheaded opposite the Man and Scythe Inn, No. 8, Church Gate.

Although the history of Bolton's manufacturing prosperity has culminated since the beginning of the present centy., it was always remarkable for a pre-eminence in trade. As early as the reign of Richard I., an aulneger, or measurer by the ell, was appointed to measure and mark with the king's seal all woollen cloths for sale; and, in the reign of Edward III., a number of Flemish clothiers settled here, expecting, as old Fuller quaintly puts it, "that their beds would be good and their bed-fellows better, seeing that the richest yeomen in England would not disdain to marry their daughters to them." Under Henry VIII. trade flourished, and Leland speaks thus : — "Bolton - upon - Moore Market standith most by cottons and coarse yarn. Divers villages in the Moores about Bolton do make cottons." These cottons, however, were in reality woollens, the cotton trade not being established until 1641, when Bolton is mentioned as a celebrated place for the manufacture of "fustians, vermillions, and dimities," in the making and sale of which Humphry Chetham, the founder of the Chetham Hospital, in Manchester, was actively engaged. Mr. Rasbotham, the antiquary, who lived at Birch House (p. 203), writes that "there is a staple here for fustians of divers sorts, especially those called Augsburg and Milan fustians, which are brought into its markets and fairs from all parts of the

country, and sold to the countrymen for clothes, and to the gentry for lining and other uses." Cotton velvet was first made here by Jeremiah Clarke in 1772. Bolton can also boast of being the place where *Arkwright*, who was a barber in Church Gate, in 1768, perfected his inventions in spinning. He did not, however, carry them out here, owing to the popular opposition to everything in the shape of machinery, but retired to found works and a fortune in Derbyshire.

Ten years afterwards, *Samuel Crompton*, also a resident in the parish, brought out his "Mule," which created a thorough revolution in the spinning-trade, and especially in the muslin manufacture. The town now contains 141 factories and bleach-works, employing 25,000 hands, and producing shirtings, quiltings, cambrics, muslins, counterpanes, blankets, &c. Bleaching is largely carried on, it being estimated that 6 millions of pieces of cloth are annually bleached here. "The factories or spinning-mills contain from 30 to 60,000 spindles each, and those of recent erection are really handsome buildings. There are about 3 millions of spindles in the borough. A mule—the machine upon which the cotton is spun—the invention of Samuel Crompton, contains from 500 to 1000 spindles, and a pair of these is managed by a spinner and 3 piecers. The tall chimneys belonging to the factories give the town a very peculiar appearance to a stranger. The by-laws of the borough require them to be at least 40 yards high, and some are more than double that height. The yarns spun in Bolton are generally very fine. As low as 10s are spun, but the "Bolton counts" are 50s and upwards. As high as 240s is commonly spun, and even so fine as 700s—that is 700 hanks of 840 yards each, making a thread 334 miles long, weighing only 1 lb."—

Baines. In addition to the cotton factories, there are many extensive machine works—such as those of Hick and Son, for steam-engines; Dobson and Barlow, for cotton machinery, &c.; besides brass foundries, iron works, chemical works, collieries, &c.

Bolton has always had rather a pronounced character for the roughness of its inhabitants; and it is a common saying in Lancashire "to be as rough as a Bolton chap," in contradistinction to a Manchester "man" and a Liverpool "gentleman."

The *Post Office* is at the corner of Bradshaw Gate.

The *old Parish Ch.* of St. Peter had fallen into such decay, from the perishable nature of its stone, that it was pulled down, and a new one opened in 1869, of the Dec. style, from designs of Mr. *Paley*, of Lancaster. It is a very handsome building, consisting of nave, transepts, chancel with aisles, organ chapel, and a western tower, 150 ft. high. The chancel contains stained-glass windows which belonged to the old ch. The registers commence in 1587, and have an entry of the burial of 78 soldiers, who fell in the attack by Prince Rupert. Bolton contains 9 other chs., but they are all more or less modern, and do not possess any features of interest, except *All Saints*, which has some excellent stained glass. The ch. of *St. Stephen's*, the district ch. for Tonge, is built of terra cotta, and has a very graceful spire, copied from that of Fribourg.

The *Town Hall*, in the Market Square is a fine new building, with a portico, surmounted by a tower, 220 ft. in height.

The *Market Hall*, built in 1855, at a cost of 50,000*l.*, is very extensive, and covers an area of 7010 square yards. There is also a public *Library* and *Museum*, con-

taining 22,000 volumes. Adjoining the parish ch. is the *Church Institution*, a mediæval building, in which a middle-class school and evening classes are held.

The *Grammar School* was founded by Robert Lever, in 1641, and is noticeable from having amongst its former masters *Ainsworth*, the author of the Latin Dictionary, and *Lempriere*, of the Classical Dictionary.

In Nelson Square are the *Infirmery* and a statue of Crompton, the inventor of the "Mule."

Bolton possesses a pretty *Park*, near Spa Lane, in which is a series of lakes, artificially formed out of a "clough." There is another of 20 acres, on the E. of the town, called the *Bradford Park*. A noticeable feature is the public *playground* of 9 acres, known as the Heywood Recreation Ground, a most valuable institution in crowded towns, which, it is to be regretted, is not more common.

Among the *celebrities* of Bolton parish were *Richard Rothwell*, the exorcist (1563), who declared that he was always having contests with devils. "It was the boast of one of his descendants, a peruke maker in Bolton, in the latter part of the 18th centy., 'I am a real Rothwell, none of your Leeredge Rothwells, but a descendant of him that beat the devil.'"—*Baines*. The *Rev. Oliver Heywood* was a celebrated Nonconformist divine, in 1629. *Richard Arkwright* (afterwards Sir Richard), was the inventor of the "Water-frame;" and *Samuel Crompton*, of the "Mule." *Tamahill*, the Scotch poet and writer of 'Jessie, the Flower of Dunblane,' worked in Bolton as a weaver of cambric muslins.

The neighbourhood of Bolton is naturally pretty, but is considerably spoilt by factory appliances and collieries. There are many interesting remains in the shape of old

houses. Adjoining the town, on the N., is *Little Bolton*, the *Hall* of which, an old brick-and-plaster building, in 1600 the seat of Richard Bolton, has been restored by its owner, S. Blair, Esq. Continue as far as the turnpike, and take the road to the l. On the brow of the opposite hill, 2½ m. from Bolton, is *Smithills Hall* (J. H. Ainsworth, Esq.), a very interesting old house, originally belonging to the Radcliffes. The last Sir Ralph Radcliffe had a daughter Joan, who by marriage brought it into the family of Barton, in the reign of Henry VI. The estate was afterwards held by the Byrons, and passed by sale to the great uncle of the present owner.

The Hall is supposed to have been built in the reign of Henry VII. by Andrew Barton, from the fact of having the initials A. B. and the rebus of a tun crowned by a bar, a humorous device common in those days. It is one of the quaintest old houses in the county, consisting of a courtyard and side wings, the E. one forming the chapel. The walls of the courtyard are painted with white and black trefoils. A singular wooden window of the 14th centy. is supposed to have been copied from Baggiley in Cheshire. It has an ogee head, and is considered by antiquaries to be very remarkable. The interior of Smithills is decorated with carved oak wainscoting and fittings, and the hall is lighted by stained-glass windows. In a passage near the dining-room is shown the imprint of a foot, concerning which the following story is current:—

In 1555, George Marsh, who resided in the adjoining parish of Dean, was apprehended and brought before Justice Barton, for holding religious opinions which were very obnoxious to the persecuting government of Queen Mary. At the examination, his friends besought him to conform to the religion of his superiors, but he remained

steadfast, and, stamping his foot, cried, "If my cause be just, let the prayer of thine unworthy servant be heard." It is said that the print of the foot ever afterwards remained indelibly fixed in the stone, which, according to popular opinion, was endowed with supernatural qualities.

The story is told at length in the 'Lancashire Traditions,' by Roby, who asserts that the Sir Roger Barton, before whom Marsh was taken, was descended from Sir Andrew Barton, the famous Puritan captain, knighted by James III. of Scotland. Marsh was afterwards examined before the Earl of Derby, at Lathom, and finally burnt as a heretic at Chester, on April 24, 1555.

A curious tenure exists by which Smithills is held from the adjoining Manor of Sharples, viz., the presentation of a pair of gilt spurs annually, and the unlimited use of the Smithills cellars whenever the Lord of Sharples came that way. Fortunately for the owner of Smithills, this latter portion of the tenure has lapsed into desuetude.

The walk to Smithills may be extended further N. to Rivington Pike (Rte. 35), or a return made to Bolton through *Halliwell*, mentioned in the reign of Edward I. as being the scene of a homicide, whereby Roger FitzJohn of Halliwell killed Richard Smalltrot. *Moss Bank* is the residence of J. H. Ainsworth, Esq., and *Halliwell Hall* of J. Ormerod, Esq.

To the E. of Smithills, and 2 m. from Bolton on the road to Darwen, is *Sharples*, where are situated the reservoirs that supply Bolton with water. On the opposite bank of the Tonge, which separates Sharples from Bradshaw, is *Hall i' th' Wood* (the property of L. Gendre Starkie, Esq.), a fine old half-timbered mullioned house, on the porch of

which is the date 1648. Here resided Samuel Crompton, to whom the spinning-trade of Lancashire was so much indebted for his discovery; and it was in the attics of this old house that he concealed his darling invention of the Mule, during the machine-breaking riots of Bolton.

Rail from Bolton to Manchester, 11 m.; Bury, 6; Wigan, 11; Horwich, 6½; Leigh, 8; Darwen, 9½; Blackburn, 14½.

An *omnibus* to the Rivington Reservoirs, 7½ m., in the summer.

The rly. to Blackburn runs due N. through a somewhat bleak and upland country, which, nevertheless, has many beautiful points about it, owing to the deep ravines in which the rivulets have cut their way through the coal-measures and sandstones. The line on leaving Bolton takes the high ground between the Bradshaw Brook and the river Tonge.

13 m. *Oaks Stat.* On l. is *Hall i' th' Wood*, and *The Oaks* (J. Ashworth, Esq.).

13½ m. *Bromley Cross Stat.* On rt. is *Turton Tower* (J. Kay, Esq.), the former residence of the Orrels, designated by Camden as "an illustrious family," by whom it was sold to Humphry Chetham. It is a picturesque, irregular old building, originally intended for defence, with a tower of 4 stories, and an embattled parapet. The drawing-room contains some good oak panelling. The hills in the neighbourhood begin to attain greater height, and there is an exceedingly fine view from *Chetham's Close*, just above and to the l. of Turton. On the rt. the Holcombe Hills and the Peel Tower are very conspicuous. (Rte. 30).

A viaduct crosses the Bradshaw Brook at a considerable height as it emerges from a large reservoir constructed to utilise the hill-

streams for the various mills on its banks.

16½ m. *Entwistle* Stat. At Entwistle Hall, now a farm-house, was born the Sir Bertine Entwistle, at the beginning of the 15th centy., whose memory is perpetuated by a slab in Rochdale ch. He was one of the heroes of Agincourt, and a loyal and brave follower of Henry V. and VI., by whose side he fell, fighting at the battle of St. Alban's, in 1455. From this family are descended the Entwistles of Foxholes.

At the other end of the succeeding tunnel is the busy town of

20 m. *Over Darwen*, containing a population that has grown from 3000 at the beginning of the present centy. to about 18,000. (*Inn*: Angel). It contains the usual manufacturing appliances of cotton-mills, print and bleach works, &c., while the neighbourhood abounds in coal and sandstone quarries. Some of the factories are of large size, and in particular that of Eccles, Shorrocks and Co., which is not only very extensive but of a higher class of architecture than mill owners generally encourage. It covers an area of 31,000 square feet, and contains 160,000 spindles. Previous to its being opened for work, and before it received its machinery, it was used as a temporary exhibition for fine arts and machinery, which was visited by a very large number of Lancashire operatives. The following are amongst the annual productive industries of Darwen:—Paper-staining, about 8 million dozen yards; paper-making, 6000 tons; calico-spinning, 6 million lbs. of yarn; cotton-spinning, 28,550,000 lbs. Darwen contains three churches. *Trinity* has some good stained glass, and *St. John's* a finely decorated chancel. The town itself is dirty, and will not detain the visitor; but the hills around it are very pretty,

and offer many a sequestered nook and wide view.

22 m. *Lower Darwen* Stat. This is another large manufacturing village, containing extensive paper-mills, though indeed the whole of the valley is more or less dotted with mills and works of some description. It is related of the Dissenters here, who form a very powerful body, that the present Darwen Chapel was built in 1719, entirely by the manual labour of the congregation, not a single outside labourer having been called in.

24½ m. BLACKBURN JUNC., from whence radiate lines to Clitheroe, Accrington, Wigan, Burnley, and Preston.

Blackburn (*Hotel*: Old Bull, comfortable) is one of the most important and public-spirited of the Lancashire cotton towns, its population having increased within the last 100 years from 5000 to 65,000. Few of the manufacturing towns are more prettily situated, it being surrounded on all sides by wooded hills, some of which are upwards of 900 ft. high, and give a pleasant aspect of cultivation and shelter.

It lies at the entrance, as it were, of the broken and somewhat rugged country that extends northward to Pendle Hill and the Pennine Chain, and, in the 8th centy., is recorded as being a district almost inaccessible. From Roger de Poitou, the original Norm. owner, the manor passed into the possession of Henry de Blackburne, and was ultimately divided; the one portion going to the Hulston family, the other to John de Laey, who gave it up to the Monks of Stanlaw Abbey, in Cheshire. When they removed to Whalley, Blackburn of course fell to the share of that establishment, and was held by the Abbots of Whalley until the Dissolution. Archbishop Cranmer

was the first Rector (and Patron) of the living. Like Bury and Bolton, Blackburn has contributed its full share to the improvements and prosperity of the cotton-trade. Even in the 17th centy. it was famous for its 'checks,' which consisted of linen warp and cotton weft, with dyed threads; but the greatest invention was in 1764, when John Hargreaves, a Blackburn weaver, conceived the idea of the spinning jenny. "Several spindles, at first 8 and afterwards 80, being made to whirl by one fly-wheel, while a moveable frame, representing so many fingers and thumbs as there were threads, alternately receded from the spindles during the extension of the threads and approached them in its winding on. The spindle in the spinster's wheel was always horizontal, but those in Hargreave's machine were upright, or very slightly inclined from the perpendicular—a position, in fact, essential to its due operation, and one which was suggested to him, it is said, by observing a common wheel continue to revolve after it was accidentally thrown down on the floor with its spindle turned up."—*Ure*.

For a time Hargreaves concealed the result of his ingenuity, but it was revealed by his wife's talkativeness, and the mob, after the fashion of mobs in those days, broke into his house and destroyed it. Finding that even his life was not safe, he retired to Nottingham, where he erected a small mill on the jenny plan. As is usually the case with inventors, he found that the Lancashire owners pirated his patent as soon as the advantages of it were known, and Hargreaves never reaped any benefit from it, although he did not die in poverty. In addition to Hargreaves' discovery, Blackburn has produced a large number of mechanicians, whose improvements have greatly developed

the perfecting of the power-loom. Blackburn is celebrated for its calicoes, and the Indian market is chiefly supplied from here. The establishment of the factory system in all its completeness was mainly owing to Mr. Peel, grandfather of the Prime Minister, who resided here; his son, the first baronet, having been born in 1750, at a house in Fish-lane. Besides the various cotton-mills which give employment to the town, there are large machine works and engine factories. Of the former the most noteworthy are those of Harrison and Sons, Dickinson and Sons, and Knowles and Co.

The *church* (close to the Old Bull) is modern, and succeeded, in 1824, an older building, dating from the reign of Henry VIII., of which the tower, venerable and time-worn, is still standing in the ch.-yd. But, according to the 'Statue de Blagborneshire,' the first ch. was built at Blackburn in 596, soon after the introduction of Christianity into this country. The present ch. is very handsome, consisting of a nave, aisles, chancel, and W. tower, and contains a very fine E. window of stained glass of ten compartments, each representing one of the Apostles. It is said to have been brought from Cologne by Dr. Whitaker. The tracery of the windows generally is very rich, one having been copied from Roslyn Chapel, in Scotland; and there is some exceedingly good stained glass in the clerestory windows. The ch. was damaged by fire in 1831, but restored by *Richman*. The parish ch. belonged to the abbots of Whalley, but, on the execution of Abbot Paslew, in 1537, the vicarage was given to Cranmer, Archbishop of Canterbury. The other churches are modern—*St. Peter's* possesses a stained-glass window and an altar-piece, a copy of Leonardo da Vinci's 'Last Supper;' *Trinity* is chiefly remarkable

for its ceiling, which is decorated with coats of arms of various Lancashire families.

The municipal buildings of Blackburn are on a handsome scale, particularly the *Town Hall*, a fine Italian building, which covers an area of 2600 square yards, and cost 30,000*l.* Opposite it is the *Exchange*, conspicuous for its octagonal tower, and containing a large hall 140 ft. long.

The *Market Hall* has a lefty campanile tower. The *Infirmary* and the *Reform Club* are both fine buildings, and contribute much to the appearance of the town. The *Grammar School* was founded by Queen Elizabeth, who directed that "it should be free to all the world." Amongst the alumni of this school were Robert Bolton, an eminent Puritan divine; and a Catholic named Anderson, so celebrated for his eloquence that he was called "the Golden-mouthed."

Outside the town is the *Corporation Park*, a very prettily-planted piece of ground of 50 acres on the side of Revidge Hill, from whence the views towards Billinge and Witton are exceedingly picturesque. Adjoining it is the *Alexandra Meadow*, for the purposes of recreation and Volunteer pursuits.

1½ m. W. of Blackburn is *Witton Hall* (J. Fielden, Esq.), which has been in the possession of that family since the reign of Elizabeth. The house is of Grecian order, built of stone from Longridge Fell, and is placed in a charmingly-wooded park, sheltered from the N. by *Billinge Hill*, 900 ft. Although this is no great height, the view in clear weather is very extensive, and is said to include the North Welsh Hills and the Isle of Man. Blackburn is well supplied with water from a reservoir at Fish Moor, which holds a supply of 360 million gallons.

The town suffered considerably in the Civil Wars, it having been attacked by the Earl of Derby at the head of 5000 Royalists. It was, however, so bravely defended that he had to beat a retreat.

Further on towards Preston are *Fennicowles* (Sir W. Feilden, Bart.) and *Pleasington Hall* (J. B. Bowden, Esq.). (Rta. 33.)

4 m. on the upper Preston road is the old Hall of *Samlesbury*, built by Sir Thos. Southworth in 1548, and thoroughly restored by the present owner, J. Harrison, Esq. It is a good specimen of the timber-and-plaster mansion, and is ornamented externally with carved heads. It is in the form of the letter L, the short arm being occupied by the hall, which has a fine timber roof. The music gallery, with its richly carved screen and posts with grotesque figures, still remains. The end bay contained the chapel, which extended right through to the top of the house, and is lighted by a large 3-light window, said to have been brought from Whalley. It contains the original piscina. There are inscriptions testifying to the builder in the music gallery and over the fireplace in the dining-hall. *Samlesbury* is remarkable for having been the scene of great superstition in 1612, a number of people having been bewitched by certain of the residents, among whom was Jane Southworth, a relative of the owners of the Hall. Between *Samlesbury* and *Blackburn*, to the N., is the village of *Mellor*, close to which was a Roman station, probably a castrum æstivum attached to *Ribchester*.

Rail from Blackburn to Ascrington, 5½ m.; Whalley, 7½ m.; Clitheroe, 10½ m.; Burnley, 11½ m.; Darwen, 4¼ m.; Bolton, 14 m.; Turton, 11 m.; Manchester, 24½ m.; Houghton, 5 m.; Preston, 11 m.

27½ m. *Ribchester Stat.* The little

town of the same name is at least 4 m. to the l., and about the same distance from Longridge (Rte. 41). It is most prettily situated on the rt. bank of the Ribble at its confluence with the Dutton and Boyce's Brook. Its name (the castrum on the Ribble) at once betokens both its origin and antiquity, it being thought by some to be identical with the Roman station of *Coccium*, by others with *Rhigodunum*. Camden, who paid two visits here, says of it, "The Rhibell turning short about, to the westward, gives its name to a village called at this day Ribblechester, where so many signs of Roman antiquity, statues, coins, pillars, pedestals of pillars, chapiters, altars, marbles and inscriptions, are commonly dug up, that this hobbling rhyme of the inhabitants does not seem to be altogether groundless:—

"It is written upon a wall in Rome

Ribchester was as rich as any town in Christendom."

Moreover the military ways meet here, the one plain by its high causeway from York, the other from the north through Bowland." An altar was found here in 1603, dedicated to the "Mother Goddesses," another to Mars and Victory, together with inscribed stones, helmets, and a bust of Minerva. In 1811 the foundations of a large building, believed to be the temple of this goddess, were discovered, together with several skeletons, Samian ware, &c.

As recently as 1833 a stone altar (inscribed) was dug up, which is now at the vicarage. The *ch.* has nave, chancel, and aisles, with a chapel at the end of the south aisle called the Houghton Choir, which has an ornamental screen, much the worse for time. In the N. aisle is the Dutton choir, containing a tombstone with the cross and sword of an Hospitaller, 1689. In this chapel

also is a curious old painted E. window, representing the second coming of Christ. The pulpit has some very interesting woodwork in compartments. Cromwell is said to have slept in Ribchester the night before the battle of Ribblesdale. $\frac{1}{2}$ m. N. of the village is the hamlet of *Stidd*, in the old chapel of which the Vicar of Ribchester is bound to perform service on the afternoon of the last Sunday in the month, Good Friday, and New Year's Day. At *Stidd* was a preceptory of the Knights Hospitallers, of the age of King John, of which the chapel is the present representative. It has a fine Trans.-Norm. arch, and some lancet windows. The font is octagonal. Under a decorated stone lie one of the lords of Salesbury and his lady, and in front of the altar is buried the Roman Catholic bishop of *Armoricum*, 1725.

To the S. of Ribchester is the old house of *Osbaldestone*, now a farmhouse, standing within a moat. It was built by Sir Edward Osbaldestone in the reign of James I. *Salesbury Hall* is an interesting Elizabethan ruin, with stone basement, formerly surmounted by a timber superstructure. Into the wall is built an altar, supposed to be of the time of Diocletian, and representing Apollo and his priests sacrificing to him. In the reign of Elizabeth an inscribed stone, when detached, was found by Whitaker to have an exquisite basso-relievo. *Lovely Hall*, $1\frac{1}{2}$ m. S. of Salesbury (A. J. Robinson, Esq.), has some old furniture and stained glass; also a cross, found at Ribchester, and supposed to commemorate the preaching of Paulinus there.

At *Ribchester Stat.* the rly. emerges into the valley—

"Where Ribble from her springs,
An alien known to be, and from the moun-
tains rude
Of Yorkshire getting strength, here boldly
dares intrude."

A beautiful and extensive view is gained looking northwards to Clitheroe and Pendle Hill, and westwards over the woods of Longridge Fell.

"These mountaines make me proud, to gaze
on me they stand,
So Longridge once arrived on the Lancas-
trian land
Salutes me."
Drayton.

30 m. *Langho Stat.* Here is an episcopal chapel, built from the materials of Whalley Abbey. A lofty viaduct carries the rly. across the Calder to

32 m. *Whalley Stat.* Stonyhurst Roman Catholic College is seen in the distance on the l., and the remains of the abbey on the rt.

Whalley (Inns: Swan, Whalley Arms) is a quiet, ancient little town on the rt. bank of the Calder, which flows through a beautiful valley from Burnley and Padiham to join the Ribble near Mitton. The name of Whalley is believed to be of Saxon origin, and to mean the "field of wells," probably from the fact that it lies at the foot of the Pendle range which drains into the valley beneath. The old parish of Whalley is of enormous extent, embracing 161 square miles, or nearly one-ninth part of all Lancashire. It contains one borough and 49 townships, of which 4 are market towns, and it is also the mother of 7 parish churches. The founder of this once splendid monastic establishment was Henry Lacy, Earl of Lincoln, who bestowed it on the Cistercian monks of Stanlaw in Cheshire. "They immediately removed to Whalley, much to the annoyance of the neighbouring Abbey of Sawley, whose brethren complained that the new comers raised the markets by the increased demand for provisions. But the latter took root notwithstanding, and would seem to have been a joyous, charitable brotherhood, well-

disposed to make the most of life, but within reasonable limits, and no less inclined to assist the poor and needy. Amongst other items in the annual computations of their expenses, we find a large sum paid to the wandering 'minstrellis,' though in some monasteries of a stricter rule it was an established law that no minstrels should enter their gates. As a set-off to this, we learn from another item that they regularly employed and paid a shoemaker to make shoes for the poor, the leather being supplied from their own tanneries." A Hermitage was founded by Henry, Duke of Lancaster, for the reception of women who took the vows, but eventually a good deal of license took place in this branch of the establishment, and the conduct of one Isole de Heton at last became so outrageous, that it afforded a pretext for petitioning the King, Henry VI., to dissolve it on the ground "that divers of the wymen that have been attending to the recluses afortym have byn misgovernyd and gotten with chyld within the seyde plasehalowyd, to the grete displeasance, hurt, and disclander of the abbaye." The story of this fair sinner is narrated in Ainsworth's 'Lancashire Witches.' The Abbot himself kept a good table, as may be gathered from the accounts, called the Couchor Book or Chartulary, which are still in existence, and which show that at his private table upwards of 1400l. were annually spent on meat.

For nearly 250 years Whalley Abbey flourished, being one of the richest in the North of England, and its abbots amongst the most powerful. But its fall took place in 1537 at the collapse of the conspiracy against Henry VIII., known as the Pilgrimage of Grace: by which its leaders endeavoured to re-establish the Papal faith and preserve the monasteries from the hands of the King's Commissioners.

The abbots of Jervaulx, Fountains, Furness, Sawley, Rivaulx, and Whalley, were all foremost in the rebellion; the latter, Abbot Paslew, the 17th and last Abbot, having raised a large body of men, and himself taken the field under the title of the Earl of Poverty. But the affair ended almost as soon as it had begun, and John Paslew atoned for his rebellion by being hung on the 12th March, 1537. From that moment the establishment of Whalley was broken up, and the last surviving monk, Thomas Holden, is found as a Protestant minister and rector of Haslingden, 37 years after the Dissolution. At that period Whalley was put in trust with John Braddyl, who made such good use of his opportunities that in 14 years he was enabled to buy the manor, in conjunction with Richard Assheton, for 2132*l*. They made a partition of the property, Assheton keeping the buildings and Braddyl the demesnes. During the Civil Wars the abbey was held for a time by the Royalists under the Earl of Derby with 5000 men. Col. Shuttleworth, however, dislodged him, and gave him battle in the plain, when the earl was defeated with a loss of 300.

Permission is given to visitors to see the ruins every day, except Sunday, between the hours of 12 and 4, by the owner (J. Taylor, Esq.), whose modern house occupies the site of, and is probably part of, the abbot's lodging, which, after the fall of the abbey, was turned into a dwelling-house by Sir Ralph Assheton. The ruins are in a sadly apocryphal state, the only perfect portion being the wall and the entrance-gateway, which has a panelled stone roof and an effigy on the outer arch.

From excavations made in 1798, it seems that the abbey buildings consisted of three quadrangles, the most westerly of which was the

cloister formed by the nave of the conventual ch. on the N., the chapter-house on the E., the dormitory on the W., and the refectory and kitchen on the S. The cloister was of wood, but the corbels that supported it still remain; in the space within, the monks were buried, and against the wall on the S. is an arch which contained the lavatory. To the E. of this quadrangle was another, formed partly by the choir of the ch. on the N. and by the abbot's residence on the E. At the S. end of the latter is an ivy-covered ruin, which appears to have been the chapel or the abbot's private oratory.

There is but little detail left to attest the richness and grandeur of the abbey—scarcely more, indeed, than to show the ground-plan of it. It consisted of a nave, presbytery with side aisles, N. and S. transept, and 2 chapels on each side the choir. In the excavations carried on by Mr. Whitaker, a beautiful fragmentary pavement was discovered, together with skeletons, evidently those of the abbots, who were buried near the high altar. The Lacies, too, were buried here, brought hither from Stanlaw. The original enclosure was more than 36 acres in extent, and there is still left near the railway a very beautiful gateway with a groined roof, which was the N.W. entrance to it. At the back of the abbot's residence, on the river bank, was the abbey mill.

To the N. of the abbey is the very interesting *church*, originally called the "White Church under the Legh," which in its early foundation "is nearly coeval with the introduction of Christianity into the North of England." Here it was that Paulinus, the missionary sent by Gregory the Great, lifted up the standard of Christianity in the 7th centy.—an event, the memorials of which are still to be seen in the churchyard in

the shape of the old stone cross, with its mutilated shaft and head. There are two other singular stones about 10 ft. high. The ancient rectors of the ch., in consequence of the extensive jurisdiction given them by the Bishops of Lichfield, called themselves Deans; and the Deanery of Whalley remained by hereditary succession till the Lateran Council in 1215, when it was dissolved. The ch., which is of a mixture of Dec. and Perp. styles, consists of nave, aisles, chancel, and west tower, which seems to be the oldest part of the building, "and to be coeval with Peter de Cestria, the first and only rector, probably a natural son of John de Laei, and a man of great ecclesiastical and political influence, who had in 1283 a grant of free warren in Whalley conferred upon him." The ch. underwent a restoration in 1868.

In the interior the nave is separated from the aisles by four pointed arches, the columns of the N. aisle having circular pillars, and of the S. octagonal. St. Mary's Chapel, in the S. aisle, belongs to Whalley Abbey, and the Little Mitton Chapel, in the N. aisle, to that manor. Notice the beautiful openwork of the oak roof—the carving on the vicar's pew—the rood-screen—the illuminated organ-pipes—and particularly the carving of the stalls in the chancel, which are relics of the old conventual ch. Some of the representations are full of humour, and include an old woman beating her husband with a ladle; and a man shoeing a goose. One of the pews was canopied, and called "St. Anton's Cage." The E. window is filled with stained glass, with heraldic insignia and arms of the various families of the district (including the rebus of Ashton and that of Bolton), and in the S. aisle is an exceedingly handsome memorial window of 8 compartments to the late T. Brookes, Esq. The N. aisle

has a curious dormer window projecting from the clerestory. There is a monumental effigy to the Rev. T. D. Whitaker, vicar of Whalley, a learned antiquary and author of the 'History of Whalley Abbey.' Notice also a floor-stone marked B. 1671 W., and a brass of a knight (Ralph Catteral) and his lady with 9 sons and 11 daughters. At the entrance to the Mitton Chapel is a stone marked with a floriated cross and chalice, and the words "Jhu fili dei miserere mei." This stone Whitaker believes to record the burial-place of Abbot Paslew. The font is octagonal. Not the least interesting of the curiosities are the key and knocker of the south door of the chancel. A *Grammar School* exists, which was endowed by Edward VI. with 20 marks a year. Mr. Whitaker calls attention to the fact, that remains of Roman origin exist in Whalley itself—inasmuch as the S. boundary of the ch.-yard is a deep and distinct foss and agger, while there is a corresponding one on the N. side.

There is a charming walk up *Nab Side*, which overhangs Whalley on the S. bank of the Calder, and is said to be the spot where Abbot Paslew was hung. $1\frac{1}{2}$ m. N.W. is *Wiseall Hall*, the old seat of the Paslews, now a farmhouse. Upon the hill above is marked in the Ordnance Map *Ieppe Knave Grave*. It is supposed by Mr. Whitaker to refer to the execution of one Ieppe for theft, as in the old record it is mentioned—"Ieppe ki fust decolle come Iaron." The Rev. T. D. Whitaker, to whom reference has so often been made as the historian of the abbey, was Vicar of Whalley between 1809 and 1818. Although a Norfolk man by birth, his ancestors held property in Lancashire, which accounts for his antiquarian interest in the county. He afterwards became Rector of Heysham and Vicar

of Blackburn, where he died, leaving directions that a certain larch-tree should be cut down, and his body placed within an excavation made in it.

Another celebrity of Whalley was Dr. John Wootton, Bishop of Exeter and Warden of the Collegiate Ch. of Manchester (d. 1593). He was the author of many religious works, and, according to Hooker, "universally read in all good letters."

The parish was formerly much troubled by witches, especially Margaret Johnson, of Marsden, and Utley, a conjuror, who bewitched to death the son of Rafe Assheton, for which he was condemned and executed.

[To Padiham, 5 m., it is a beautiful excursion, the road running over a richly-wooded hill above the Calder, which is, however, unfortunately but little seen.

1½ m. 1. *Clerk Hill*, belonging to the representatives of the late Rev. J. Whalley, commands a splendid view. It was the property of the Crombrooks until 1699, when they sold it to the Whalleys for 785*l.* On rt., overlooking the Calder, is *Moreton Hall* (J. Taylor, Esq.). The old house that preceded the present Elizabethan building was supposed to have been, in the 15th cent., the residence of the mortuary collector of the Abbey of Whalley. It is mentioned in the reign of Elizabeth as being granted to John Morton, citizen and haberdasher of London.

2 m. *Sabden Brook*, a pretty stream, though defiled by dye-works. *Read Hall* (J. Fort, Esq.) is a modern mansion built on the site of an older one which (temp. Elizabeth) was held and inhabited by Alexander Nowell, Dean of St. Paul's, who was exceedingly unpopular with her Majesty. "On one occasion he was proposed as Provost of Eton, but the queen re-

fused to have him placed so near her; on another, Parker was compelled to erase his name from the list of clergymen selected to preach before her; on a third, she gave 'Mr. Dean' a terrible scolding, because he had placed a prayer-book with pictorial illustrations before her in St. Paul's, which illustrations she denounced as popish and idolatrous." —*Halley*. Strype adds that the matter occasioned all the clergy in and about London, and the churchwardens of each parish, to search their churches and chapels, and to wash out of the walls all paintings which seemed to be Romish. The Dean's brother, Lawrence Nowell, became Dean of Lichfield (d. 1576). He was a great topographer, and the author of 'Polychronicon,' and several curious and interesting maps. Bishop Heber, of Hodnet, Salop, was descended from this family. [To the N. of Read Hall (about 8 m.) is *Sabden (Inn: Commercial)*, an isolated little manufacturing town with some cotton mills and dye-works. It is situated close under the southern slopes of Pendle Hill, which are here more rugged and escarped than on any other side. The whole district is broken and wild, and a considerable amount of interest is attached to it, from its having been the reputed residence of the *Lancashire Witches*, upon whose lives Mr. Harrison Ainsworth has founded his interesting novel of that name.

The witches, whose proceedings so troubled North Lancashire were at their zenith in the reign of James I., and were suppressed only by the most severe edicts, many hundreds having been brought to trial and burnt at Lancaster, Yarmouth, Bury St. Edmund's, and elsewhere. The following story is told in Whitaker's 'Whalley':—

"A number of persons, inhabitants of Pendle Forest, were apprehended in the year 1633, upon the

evidence of Edmund Robinson, a boy about 11 years old, who deposed before two of his Majesty's Justices at Padiham, that on All Saints' Day he was getting 'bulloes,' when he saw two greyhounds, black and brown, come running over the field towards him. When they came nigh, they fawned on him, and he supposed they belonged to some of the neighbours. He expected presently that some one would follow; but, seeing no one, he took them by a string, which they had tied to their collars, and thought he would hunt with them. Presently a hare sprang up near to him, and he cried 'Loo, loo!' but the dogs would not run. Whereupon he grew angry, and tied them to a bush, for the purpose of chastising them; but, instead of the black greyhound, he now beheld a woman, the wife of one Dickonson, a neighbour. The other was transformed into a little boy. At this sight he was much afraid, and would have fled, but the woman stayed him and offered him a piece of silver, like a shilling, if he would hold his peace; but he refused the bribe. Whereupon she pulled out a bridle, and threw it over the little boy's head, who was her familiar, and immediately he became a white horse. The witch then took the deponent before her, and away they galloped to a place called Malkin Tower, by the Hoarstones at Pendle. He then beheld many persons appear in like fashion, and a great feast was prepared, which he saw and was invited to partake, but he refused. Spying an opportunity, he stole away and ran towards home; but some of the company pursued him until he came to a narrow place, called 'the Boggart Hole,' where he met two horsemen; seeing which, his tormentors left off following him. He further said that, on a certain day, he saw a neighbour's wife of the name of Loynd, sitting upon a cross-piece of wood within the chimney of his

father's dwelling-house. He called to her, saying, 'Come down, thou Loynd wife!' and immediately she went up out of sight. Likewise upon the evening of All Saints' before named, his father sent him to look up the kine, when, coming through a certain field, he met a boy who began to quarrel with him, and they fought until his face and ears were bloody. Looking down, he saw the boy had cloven feet, and away he ran. It was now nearly dark, but he descried at a distance a light like a lantern. Thinking this was carried by some of his friends, he made all haste towards it, and saw a woman standing on a bridge, whom he knew to be Loynd's wife; turning from her, he again met with the boy, who gave him a heavy blow on the back, after which he escaped. On being asked the names of the women he saw at the feast, he mentioned 17 persons, all of whom were committed to Lancaster for trial. In the end they were set at liberty, the boy Robinson having confessed that he was suborned to give evidence against them." There are several old houses in the Sabden district, such as *Pendleton Hall*, *Old Laund Hall*, *Sabden Hall*, *Whitehough*, all farmhouses. *Rough Lee Hall* was the abode of Mistress Alice Nutter, a celebrated Pendle witch, in the time of James I. The Wesleyan congregation here was founded personally by John Wesley, who frequently preached in this wild neighbourhood.]

4 m. 1. *Huntroyde* is a fine old house, occupying the site of a hunting-lodge of John of Gaunt. It was rebuilt by *Inigo Jones*, and is placed in a park remarkable for the size and beauty of the oaks, some of which date from the time of Elizabeth. *Huntroyde* is the seat of Le Gendre N. Starkie, Esq., whose ancestors acquired it in the 15th centy. by marriage with the family of *Symond*.

stone, which resided at the old Hall of that name, on the rt. of the road (W. Dugdale, Esq.). We find in ancient documents, that John de Symondstone granted the monks of Whalley leave to dig stone here for building their abbey. The family of the Whitakers subsequently possessed the estate.

The road now descends to *Padiham* (*Inn*: Starkie's Arms), a dirty town on the Calder, entirely dependent on the cotton trade, and possessing very little interest for the tourist. It is almost the only cotton town in Lancashire without a rly., and the goods have to be sent on lorries to Burnley, 3 m. The *ch.* was rebuilt in 1868, and consists of nave, side aisles, transepts, chancel, and aisles. There are some handsome stained-glass windows, that of the E. being in memory of the late Mr. Starkie, of Huntroyde. The font was given by Abbot Paslew, the last abbot of Whalley.

Near the town is *Gawthorpe Hall*, the seat of Sir J. Kaye-Shuttleworth, Bart., whose family has been in possession since the time of Richard II. The present house is of Elizabethan age, built by Laurence Shuttleworth, in 1605, and restored by *Sir Charles Barry*. The interior contains some fine carving and plaster work, and a gallery of family portraits, including that of Capt. William Shuttleworth, who was killed when fighting on the side of the Parliament. The Shuttleworths were people of considerable importance at this time. One was Puritan member for Preston in the Long Parliament, and 2 of his grandsons were colonels in Lambert's army. It is said "that during the restoration a large number of gold coins were found under the panel of one of the rooms, and were supposed to have been hidden there when Charles Edward's army passed through Lancashire in 1745." [*Shropshire, &c.*]

—*Burke*. Overlooking Gawthorpe is the site of the manor-house of *Ightenhill*, said to have been occasionally a royal residence of John of Gaunt, and an ancient seat of the Lacies. 1 m. to the N. is *High Whitaker*, "formerly used as a Roman Cath. chapel, and conjectured to have been the residence of Thomas Whitaker, who, being much persecuted, was accustomed to escape into a subterranean passage, but was at length apprehended, and, being brought to trial, was executed at Lancaster in 1646 for priesthood."—*Baines*.

Still higher up the valley are *Pendle Hall*, belonging to the Starkies, and *White Lee*, of the date 1593, where was born Sir John Moore, author of the 'Domestic Economist.'

The village of *Higham*, in the hills to the N., contains a building called the Courthouse, on the front of which are the arms of John of Gaunt, who is said to have used it for trying and executing criminals.]

[A 2nd and still more interesting excursion can be made from Whalley to the Roman Catholic College of *Stonyhurst*, 5 m., through Mitton village. Tickets are necessary to see Stonyhurst, and can be obtained from the Vicar of Whalley, or the hotel-keeper at Clitheroe. For the whole way the building is conspicuous to the traveller, who is inclined to underestimate the distance, but he will find the road winds considerably.

2 m. The view is charming at *Mitton Bridge*, where a corner of Yorkshire is entered, a little above the confluence of the Ribble and the Hodder. Below that again, the Calder falls in—

"As Holder, that from home attends me from
my spring,
Then Calder coming down, from Blackstone
Edge doth bring
Me easily on my way."—*Drayton*.

"The Rybell, a river verie rich

of salmon and lampreie dooth in manner inviron Preston in Andermere, and it riseth neere to Ribbesdale, above Gisburne. It goeth from thence to Sawley or Salley, Chatburne, Clittherow Castell, and beneath Mitton meeteth with the Odder. It hath not gone farre, but it meeteth with the Calder."—*Harrison*. The old country rhyme has it thus:—

"The Hodder, the Calder,
Ribble, and rain,
All meet together
In Mitton doypain."

On the l., overlooking the river, is *Mitton Hall* (J. G. Potter, Esq.), formerly the residence of the Catterals, and afterwards of the Sherburnes. In the 17th century it was purchased by Alexander Holt, goldsmith of London, through whose descendants it came by marriage to the Beaumonts. The interior contains a very fine old Gothic hall, and is altogether a good specimen of domestic architecture of the reigns of Henries VII. and VIII. On the other side the bridge is the *Aspinall Arms Inn*, a comfortable little hostelry, which the artist or the fisherman will find a convenient locality for their respective pursuits. The *ch.* of *Great Mitton* has been well restored, and is very interesting from the monumental remains of the Sherburne family. It consists of nave, chancel, N. aisle (called the Sherburne Chapel), and W. tower. The E. window is of 5 lights and of stained glass with armorial bearings of the Sherburnes. On S. side of the altar are sedilia, and there is some good carving in the oak screen, the pulpit, and the top of the font. The screen is said to have been brought from Cockersand Abbey, and has a Latin inscription running across it, to the effect that it was put up in the time of the Lord Abbot William Staynford. The Sherborne Chapel contains monuments to Sir Nicholas Sherburne, 1688, with a curious epi-

taph setting forth his goodness in teaching his neighbours wool spinning and combing; a recumbent effigy of Sir Richard Sherburne, 1629; also of another Sir Richard Sherburne and his wife; and of the Hon. Peregrine Widdrington, who was thrown with his brother into prison after the Preston affair of 1715.

4 m. the Hodder is crossed—a delightful bit of landscape—and Lancashire re-entered.

5 m. *Stoneyhurst* is the most important seminary for Roman Catholic students in England, the next largest being that of Ossett in Staffordshire. The buildings are on a fine scale, the nucleus of them being the Elizabethan mansion of the Sherburnes, 1596, to which large additions have been made to accommodate the increasing wants of the school. After the death of Sir Nicholas Sherburne in 1700, it came into the hands of his daughter, the Duchess of Norfolk, and then to Mr. Weld, of Lulworth, who installed here the English Jesuits, who after their expulsion from St. Omer, settled at Liege, only to be turned out of that town by the government, which followed up the suppression of the order by Pope Clement XIV. There are a fine N. front and quadrangle, 80 ft. by 100, but the rest of the buildings are of modern character. The main portion was erected by Sir Richard Sherburne, knighted for his bravery at the battle of Leith; and the cupolas of the towers were added by Sir Nicholas, who, it was said, only spent 50l. upon them. The chief objects of interest are the Dormitories, the Infirmary, the Refectory, which contains a painting after *Murillo*, and the Chapel, which has some fine frescoes and painted ceiling. The Library is very well arranged, and contains amongst its 30,000 vols. some rare works and

curiosities. Amongst the former are some beautiful Missals and a complete copy of Froissart's 'Chronicles'; a fine series of black-letter works; early specimens of printing, including Caxton's 'Golden Legend'; a MS., attributed to St. Francis de Sales; the Homilies of Pope Gregory; a copy of the Gospels of St. John, supposed to have been found in the tomb of St. Cuthbert; and several Amharic MSS., brought from Abyssinia. Amongst the latter are a Bible that belonged to Mary, Queen of Scots, and which she held in her hand when she mounted the scaffold; Sir Thomas More's hat and seal; a cabinet of Mary, Queen of England; and a large collection of stuffed birds presented by Mr. Waterton.

The gardens are very well worth seeing, and are remarkable for their quaint arrangement and the dark walks shaded by yew-trees. The centre of the garden is occupied by an observatory, magnetic and astronomical.

The College is divided into two sections—an upper one for the students, and the seminary for the boys, of which there are 200. There is another house on the banks of the Hodder, which accommodates 80 of the younger ones. A certain number of elder students are received, who enjoy privileges over the others, and are styled "philosophers," a large number of them being composed of foreigners. A large farm is attached to the College within its boundaries, and altogether it is a perfect colony, producing almost everything that it requires. To the S. of Stoneyhurst is

Hurst Green, a village with some bobbin manufactories (*Inn*: Sherburne Arms). The tourist can either return to Whalley, or round the Fell to Longridge. (Rte. 41.)]

From Whalley Stat. the rly. runs due N., passing on l. Great Mitton,

and on rt. *Standen Hall* (J. P. Aspinall, Esq.).

35 m. *Clitheroe (Inn*: Swan), was in Norman times one of the two ancient seats of the Lacies (the other being at Pontefract), who became possessed of the Honour of Clitheroe, either by direct gift from William the Norman, or through Roger de Buisli and Albert Grealst, to whom the original Baron, Robert de Poitou, had granted the Hundred.

Henry de Lacy, the last of the line, left one daughter (1810), who married and brought the Honour into the possession of Thomas Plantagenet Earl of Lancaster. But on the Earl's attainder, the property was forfeited to the Crown, and continued an appanage of the Duchy of Lancaster until Charles II. bestowed it upon General Monk, Duke of Albemarle. From him it has descended to the Duke of Buccleuch, the present owner. A curious document is in existence respecting the conveyance of rents from Clitheroe to London. "One pound in every hundred was allowed to the steward as a kind of insurance. The whole was packed up in canvass bags, and 2 shillings per diem were allowed for fifteen days in *eundo, morando et redeundo*, during the conveyance."—*Whitaker*.

The *Castle*, which is in a most commanding situation on the summit of a limestone rock overlooking the vale of Ribbles, was dismantled by the Parliament during the Civil War, and nothing of the original building remains but a portion of the keep, within which was formerly the chapel of St. Michael de Castro. A portion of it, however, has been modernised, and is the residence of D. Robinson, Esq., the Duke's agent for the Honour. The *Grammar School* was founded in 1554 by Philip and Mary. An old place in the town called *The Alleys* was the

residence of the Cliderhows, and was moated, but there are not any traces of the ancient mansion. The Clyderhows are first heard of in the reign of Edward I., when the Welsh marched through Lancashire to unite with the English against the Scots. The church has been modernised. It contains a couple of mutilated figures, supposed to be effigies of Sir Richard Radcliffe and his wife; a brass, ornamented with a horoscope, in memory of Dr. Webster, an astrologer, and master of the grammar school (1682); and a monument, by *Westmacott*, to Thomas Wilson, also a master, who held office in the present century. The E. window is of stained glass, with armorial bearings. Clitheroe also numbers among its natives Captain James King, the friend and companion of Captain Cook, the voyager; and the ancestors of Sir William Dugdale, the antiquary. Immediately across the bridge is a farmhouse called *Edisford*, which marks the site of a famous hospital for lepers, dedicated to St. Nicholas as "*Domus Leprosorum de Edisforth*," but it does not seem to have existed later than 1500. With the exception of the castle, and the view from it, there is not much to interest the visitor; but Clitheroe is a good point from whence to ascend *Pendle Hill*, the great locale of the saturnalia of Lancashire witches (p. 215), which rises in a huge mass to the E. to the height of 1851 ft. Although far inferior to other hills within sight, it is described in the Yorkshire doggerel—

"Ingleborough, Pendle Hill, and Pennyghent

Are the highest hills between Scotland and Trent."

Its outlines are not the most picturesque, denudation having reduced the summit to a plateau—but the view from it is very fine, embracing on the W. the whole of the

Irish Channel, and on the E. extending as far as York Minster on a clear day. "The very name of Pendle Hill carries with it, in Lancashire, something impressive, though it may often be indefinitely so. It is a synonym, throughout the district, for the profoundest antiquity, and is associated at once with watchfires and with witchcraft. Yet, except for the explorer, the reward of the climb is indifferent. The views are grand, and plenty of mountain plants may be collected, but there is nothing peculiar. A pleasing association exists, however, in the circumstance that John Ray, the father of English botany, records in his Synopsis that near the beacon he gathered *Bifolium minimum*, now called *Listera cordata*. This would be about 1690."—*Grindon*.

Owing, perhaps, to the depth of the peat and the quantity of springs, Pendle Hill is notable for several very alarming inundations, one of which, in 1669, was so sudden and powerful that, as two people were crossing on horseback a brook on their way to church, the hinder one could not pass. On the other side of the hill is a great ravine called "the Brast or *Burst Clough*," which is said to have been formed entirely from this cause. The summit of the Pendle was dreaded, in old days, from its being crowned by *Malkin Tower*, the resort of witches.

Rubus chamaemorus also grows on Pendle Hill—a semi-arctic plant, which Prof. Forbes considered to belong to the glacial era. Pendle was one of the great forests into which Blackburnshire was divided, the others being Trawden, Rosendale, and Accrington. Nearly at its foot, overlooking Clitheroe, is *Mearley Hall*, an old residence of the Nowells. A fine old bay window is left, said to have been brought by Christopher Nowell from *Sawley Abbey*.

Clitheroe Moor was the scene of a battle between David I. of Scotland and King Stephen.

A considerable trade is carried on in the town and neighbourhood in cotton-spinning, calico-printing, paper-making, bobbin-turning, &c. Pop. 7000.

[A very beautiful excursion, suitable chiefly for pedestrians, may be taken from Clitheroe, over the mountains, to Lancaster, between 25 and 26 m., by Whitewell, 9 m.

1 m. *Loumoor*, a little factory village on the banks of the Ribble, which is crossed just between the road entering Yorkshire.

2½ m. *Bashall*, an old residence of the Talbot family. Between this place and Waddington a number of skeletons were found, together with some fibulae, probably indicating an engagement between the Romans and Britons.

6½ m. *Brotsholme* (pronounced Brooslem), the seat of T. G. Parker, Esq., hereditary Forester of Bowland. The house dates from 1604, and consists of a centre, two wings, and front façade. It contains some valuable MSS. and the silver seal of the Commonwealth "for the approbation of public preachers." The hall is a fine apartment, adorned with old oak and suits of armour. Amongst the curiosities is the stirrup of the forest, through which every dog was expected to be able to pass.

From hence the road ascends the hill of Rudholme Laund (the latter term signifying an enclosure for deer), and then plunges suddenly down a steep descent, into the valley of the Hodder, to

9 m. *Whitewell*, a charming little village, with a remarkably comfortable *Inn* close to the river's edge. Hard by is the little chapel erected in the time of Henry VII., and in the valley above is the training establishment of Col. Towneley.

At the head of the valley the Hodder turns to the rt., receiving the tributaries of the Brennand, the Langden, and the Hareden Brook. "The Hodder, coming down from Cross of Greet, forms the boundary of Yorkshire and Lancashire, as it must originally have done between two British tribes, the word 'Odre' in that language signifying a limit or bound."—*Whitaker*. The hills here rise to a considerable height, varying from 1000 to 1400 ft., and the road turns to the l., following the course of the Langden for 2 m., and then breasting the hill of Trough Bank (1383 ft.) by what is known as the Trough of Bowland, the highest point which the road has to ascend. The forest of *Bowland*, or *Bolland*, is the watershed of streams, which run into the Lune on the one side and the Ribble on the other—and the Yorkshire boundary passes along the crests of its highest ridges—Wolf-Crag, Cross of Greet, Bolland Knots and Burmoor—names which are more picturesque than the country in which they are found. The forest of Bowland belonged to the Honour of Clitheroe, and was celebrated for its reputation as a sporting district, on which account it obtained its name. The laws of the day were very severe. Amongst others, it was provided "that the several tenants, as well leaseholders as fee-farmers, are bound to suffer the deere to go unmolested into their several grounds; they are also fyned, if anie, without lysens, keep anie dogg bigger than will go through a stirupe, to hunt the deere out of the corne."

On the other side of the Trough of Bolland the road descends upon the Wyre, which takes its rise in *Manshaw Fell* close by—

"Arriving but a rill, at first from Wyresdale's lap,
Yet still receiving strength from her full mother's pap,

As down to seawards shee, her serious
course doth plye,
Takes Calder coming in, to bear her com-
pany,
And Bowland from her breast, sends Brock
her to attend,
As shee a forest is."—*Drayton.*

The road does not, however, keep close to it for long, but strikes across the shoulder of a hill to the Grysdale Brook, a tributary of the Wyre. From hence it is a succession of hill and dale to Lancaster (Rte. 42).]

2 m. N.W. of Clitheroe, within the Yorkshire boundary and across the Ribble, is *Waddington Hall*, an old seat of the Tempests, who inherited it by the marriage of their ancestor with Alice, heiress of the De Waddingtons in the reign of Edward I. "The usurper, Henry VI., after the battle of Hexham, in 1463, was conveyed into this county, where he was concealed by his vassals for an entire twelvemonth, notwithstanding the most diligent search made after him. At length he was surprised at dinner at Waddington Hall, and taken at Bungeley Hippingstones near Clitheroe. The house was burnt, but the king found means to get out, ran across the fields below Waddow Hall, and passed the Ribble on the stepping-stones into a wood on the Lancashire side called Christian Fighile, but, being closely pursued, was there taken. From thence he was carried to London in the most piteous manner on horseback, with his legs tied to the stirrups."—*Pennant.* A grant was made to Sir John de Waddington for assisting in the capture, although a gross breach of hospitality—"pro servitio suo in magni capturâ adversarii nostri Henrici nuper de facto non de jure regis Angliæ."

The rly. continues N.E. from Clitheroe, passing on l. an old house called *Horrocksford Hall*, formerly

the residence of the Parkers of Brownsolme; and several lime-works, which are very abundant in this part of the county—reaching the terminus at

87 m. *Uthburn Stat.* (*Inn* : *Pendle.*) A large number of Roman coins were found here in the last century. To the rt. is *Downham*, the seat of R. Assheton, Esq. In the neighbourhood are found crystals, as lustrous as Bristol stones, and called *Downham diamonds*. They are alluded to in the old song—

"When Downham stones with diamond rings,
And cockles be with pearies compared."

The Asshetons have held *Downham* since the 16th centy., when it was in the possession of Nicholas Assheton, a somewhat jovial Puritan, and author of the 'Journal,' dated 1617. He is a prominent character in Ainsworth's 'Lancashire Witches.' The church contains the monuments of this family. 2 m. to the N. of Clitheroe, within the Yorkshire border, are the ruins of *Sawley Abbey* (Cistercian). The actual remains are very slight and of little architectural importance—but the ground plan, by the direction of Earl De Grey, the present owner, has been most carefully traced, and in this respect *Sawley* is not less interesting than *Fountains* or *Jervaulx*.

Sawley (no doubt, as *Whitaker* suggests, the "willow field," seal A.-S. = a willow) was founded in 1147 by William de Percy, Lord of *Topcliffe* and *Spofforth* and of the whole of *Ribblesdale* within *Craven*. The house (which was dedicated to St. Mary and St. Andrew, and known as *Mons Sti. Andree de Salley*) was colonised from *Newminster*, in *Northumberland*—the first offshoot from *Fountains*—but about 40 years after its foundation the poverty of *Sawley* was so great

that it would have been suppressed, had not Maud, Countess of Warwick, the founder's daughter and heiress, granted to it the ch. of Tadcaster and 100 acres of land in Calton, where she was born. The convent still remained poor and dissatisfied, however, complaining of the bad climate, of the hospitality they were compelled to show to numbers of people passing on to the public way near their house, and of the ravages of the Scots—but although few additional grants of land seem to have been made to it, a household book of the abbey, preserved at Whalley, shows that, in 1381, its revenue amounted to about 377*l.*, so that its position had by that time greatly improved. The last abbot, William Trafford, was concerned in the Pilgrimage of Grace, and was accordingly hanged at Lancaster in 1537. The house, which was then dissolved, was granted to Sir Arthur Darcy, one of the Northern Commissioners for the suppression. From him it passed through many hands to its present owner.

There were frequent disagreements between the monks of Sawley and Whalley—the former complaining that their arrival had made all the necessaries of life dearer in the neighbourhood. In a provisional chapter of the Cistercian abbots, held in 1305, the monks of the two houses were exhorted to live in brotherly love, and it was ordered that every Sawley monk offending against Whalley should be sent to Whalley for punishment, and *vice versa*. This ingenious plan seems to have been effectual in preventing breaches of the monastic peace.

The site of Sawley can never have been so secluded as those of other Cistercian houses in the county; but the highway which now runs close to the river was originally on the W. of the mill stream, and the

park or close of about 50 acres quite surrounded the abbey. This close, which was entered by two gates called N. and S. port, has been cleared, and from the high ground above it there is a very fine view up and down Ribblesdale.

The church was in progress of alteration when the house was suppressed, and the plan, owing to the condition in which the work was arrested, is at first perplexing. The first ch. was cruciform, but with the great peculiarity that the length of the transept exceeded that of the united nave and choir by 12 ft. There were no aisles. The transept had 3 eastern chapels in each wing. The short nave, of which the walls remain to a height of 25 ft., seems to have had no side windows, and to have been lighted only from above the W. door. Outside its N. wall is a foundation ranging with the nave, but prolonged considerably beyond it. This seems to have been an additional aisle or chapel, built during the Dec. period, since a piscina of that character remains in the (once exterior) wall of the nave. There was no communication, however, with the nave, and apparently none with the transept. In the southernmost of the chapels is a large tomb slab, sculptured with two polished crosses. S.W. of it, in the body of the transept, is the tomb slab of William of Rivington, Prior of Sawley, and, in 1372, Chancellor of Oxford. The pavements in the middle chapel of each transept are of the 13th cent., and excellent of design. In the northernmost chapel is a slab which covered the remains of "Sir Robert de Clyderhow," once "Parson" of Wigan, a strong supporter of Thomas, Earl of Lancaster, in his quarrel with Edward II. in 1321. The choir seems to have been rebuilt in the Perp. period, although the walls of the original Norm. choir still remain, and were pro-

bably left till a central tower could be erected.

At the S. end of the transept are the foundations of the chapter-house and two adjoining apartments not easily appropriated. The S. side of the cloister court has been demolished nearly to the foundation. Here, however, were the great refectory and kitchen. Of the farm buildings, a granary and corn-mill alone remain, at a short distance W. The northern gate-house, in which the Tudor arch of the outer and inner walls is alone ancient, stands about 270 ft. from the ruins.

The line then runs S.E., leaving the ch. and village of *Walton-le-Dale* to the l.

At **PRESTON JUNC.** the line from Ormskirk and Liverpool falls in (Rte. 40).

3 m. *Bamber Bridge Stat.*, a populous village with two large cotton-mills. Adjoining it is *Cuerden Hall*, the seat of R. Towneley Parker, Esq., whose ancestor, Banastre Parker, built it in 1716. An older house existed here in the 15th centy., which belonged to Christopher Banastre, of Bamber, one of whose heiresses brought it to the Parker family by marriage.

6 m. *Hoghton Stat.* About 1½ m. on the rt., occupying a conspicuous position on the summit of a beautiful wooded knoll, is *Hoghton Tower*, in the 16th and 17th centuries one of the proudest of English mansions, but for many years past a dilapidated ruin. It has now, however, been put in repair, and is no longer open to the public. It is the family seat of the De Hoghtons (Sir H. Bold de Hoghton, Bart.), who held property here, it is said, since the time of Henry II., in the person of Adam de Horton or Dominus de Horton, to whose descendant, Sir Richard, permission was given to enclose a park. The present house, which has been so long in a ruined state, was built in the reign of Elizabeth, by Sir Thomas Hoghton. "who," says old Kuerden, the anti-quary, "translated this manor-house formerly placed below the hill, near unto the waterside. Betwixt ye inward square court and the second (between the 1st and 2nd courts) was a very strong tall tower or gate-house, which, in the late and unhappy civil wars, was accidently blown up with powder, with some adjacent buildings, after the surrender thereof, and one Captain Starkey, with 200 more, were killed

ROUTE 33.

FROM PRESTON TO COLNE BY BLACKBURN, ACCRINGTON, AND BURNLEY.

The Lancashire and Yorkshire Rly., which connects these towns, leaves the London and North-Western immediately outside the general station at Preston (Rte. 41), and crosses the Ribble by a long viaduct. The view on each side is exceedingly pretty, the banks of the river immediately beneath the rly. being gay with flowers, and the well-kept walks of the Miller and Avenham Parks.

in that blast most woefully. This stately fabric is environed with a most spacious park, which in former times was so full of timber that a man passing through it could scarce have seen the sun shine at middle of day; but, of later days, most of it has been destroyed. It was much replenished with wild beasts, as with boars and bulls of a white and spangled colour, and red deer in great plenty—the last as yet preserved for game by the lords thereof." The main body of the building, which is entered from the quadrangle by a circular flight of steps, contains some fine rooms; the hall, 51 ft. long by 30 ft. wide, the green room, the marble room, and the king's room, which King James I. occupied during his visit to Sir Richard de Hoghton in 1617. This occasion was the most splendid in the history of Hoghton Tower, the royal guest not only bringing with him a splendid Court, but attracting half Lancashire to assist at the sports and pay respect to majesty. Sir Richard himself met the king at the foot of the hill with a long train of the proudest gentry of Lancashire, who did not disdain to wear Sir Richard's livery. An extract from Nicholas Assheton's (of Downham) diary says: "My brother Sherborne's taylor brought him a suit of apparel, and us two others, and a livery cloak from Sir Richard Hoghton, that we should attend him at the king's coming, rather for his grace and reputation than any exacting of mean service." No expense was spared to keep the king constantly amused by masques, dances, feasts, and royal stag-hunts in Hoghton Park. "A petition which was presented here to King James by a great number of Lancashire peasants, tradesmen, and servants, requesting that they might be allowed to take their diversions (as of old accustomed) after divine service on Sundays, is said to have

been the origin of the 'Book of Sports,' soon after promulgated by royal authority. James being persuaded that those were Puritans who forbade such diversions, and that they were Jewishly inclined, because they affected to call Sunday the Sabbath, recommended that diverting exercises should be used after evening prayers, and ordered the book to be read publicly in all churches; and such ministers as refused to obey the injunction were threatened with severe punishment in the High Commission Court. This legal violation of the day which is unequivocally the Christian Sabbath, roused at the time the indignation of the seriously disposed, and has been frequently reprobated by historians. Foremost of its opposers, and eminent in example, stands the virtuous and firm Archbishop Abbot, who, being at Croydon the day it was ordered to be read in churches, flatly forbade it to be read there, which the king was pleased to wink at, notwithstanding the daily endeavours that were used to irritate the king against him."—*Nichol's 'Royal Progress.'*

It was during one of the banquets at Hoghton that King James is said to have knighted the loin of beef and ordered it ever afterwards to be called the Sir-loin; although, according to some, the beef was already called sur-loin, and the royal punster merely played upon the word—

"The god, in guise of yeoman tall,
Pass'd along the crowded hall;
And with portly mien and bland
Gave this to the monarch's hand.
The well known dish the king surveyed,
And then drew forth the shining blade,
He waved it thrice, with gentle tap
Thrice imposed the knightly slap."
Old Ballad.

The view from the gateway of Hoghton Tower is superb, and embraces a vast expanse of the valley and estuary of the Ribble, with the mountains of Wales, the Lake

country, and Yorkshire in the distance.

From Hoghton Stat. the rly. has a very picturesque course at the foot of Hoghton Hill, the ravine of which is crossed by a viaduct 116 ft. high, overlooking on l. the valley of the Darwen, dotted with mills and hamlets.

8 m. *Pleasington Stat.* On rt. is *Fenniscowles* (Celtic, Pen-ys-goll, Head of the Cliff), the seat of Sir W. Feilden, Bart. An old Saxon tradition held that Fenniscowles was the *locus habitandi* of the Phoenix. In Henry III.'s reign this property belonged to the Pleasingtons, who falling in the male line, it was brought by the heiress to the De Wynsleys, and afterwards to the Ainsworths, by whom it was sold to the grandfather of the present baronet. The house contains paintings by *Ostade, Murillo, H. Caracci, C. Dolce, N. Poussin*, &c.

On l. of rly. is *Pleasington Hall* (J. Butler-Bowden, Esq.), a handsome modern Grecian mansion. The old hall still exists; a good specimen of an Elizabethan residence. Upon the porch is the date 1587. During the Reformation, Pleasington was the residence of the family of Ainsworth, a member of which was *Lawrence Ainsworth*, a noted Puritan preacher, and author of 'Annotations on the Five Books of Moses.'

9 m. *Cherry Tree Stat.* On l. is *Witton* (J. Feilden, Esq.).

11 m. *BLACKBURN JUNC.* (Rte. 82).

13½ m. near *Rihton Stat.* there is a large reservoir.

15½ m. near *Church Stat.* are the *Rhyddings* (R. Watson, Esq.) and *Paddock House* (G. Walmesley, Esq.), and a little to the N. are the villages of *Clayton-in-Moors* and *Henfield*. The latter contains a fine Roman Catholic chapel, with an altar-piece

by *Caracci*, representing "The Presentation in the Temple." Adjoining the village are *Dunkenladgh Park* (H. Petre, Esq.), built temp. James I.; *Sparta House* (Mrs. Clegg), the old seat of the Whalleys; and *Clayton Hall* (James Lomax, Esq.), the property of the De Claytons in the reign of Edward III. The present house is modern. Some little distance to the rt. of the ch. are *Knuzden Hall*, an old seat of the Barons; and *Peel Fold*, where the first Sir Robert Peel resided in his early life.

16½ m. ACCRINGTON JUNC.

Accrington (Inn: Hargreaves Arms) is a busy manufacturing town of about 18,000 inhab., principally employed in the factories for cotton and mouseline de laine, and in machine works. The only object of interest is the Peel Institution, a handsome Italian building, erected in 1857 at a cost of 8000*l.* There are 3 chs., the *parish ch.* rebuilt, and 2 new ones. The *Grange*, an old house, was probably a monastic farmhouse belonging to Kirkstall Abbey. In the neighbourhood are *Hollins*, which was plundered in consequence of the owner's (Robt. Cunliffe) opposition to Cromwell's measures; and *High Riley*, the residence of the Rihtons in Henry VIII.'s reign.

Arden (B. Hargreaves, Esq.); near Accrington, was a station of the army placed here by William the Conqueror to guard the passes between Lancashire and Yorkshire. It was also a grange to Kirkstall Abbey.

The line now keeps a northerly direction through a somewhat bleak country to

18½ m. *Huncoot Stat.*, to l. of which is *Atham*. The ch. has some frescoes and a stained-glass B. window, by *Clutterbuck*, to the memory of Hacking, the inventor of the carding engine. The font was given to the

ch. by Abbot Paslew, of Whalley. *Altham Hall*, now a farmhouse, was originally moated, and contains some Pointed doorways. *Shuttleworth Hall*, between Hapton and Altham, was the seat of the Shuttleworths, temp. Edward III. The present house was built in the reign of James I.

19½ m. *Hapton Stat.* Both the old halls at these places are now farm-houses; the latter was the residence of the Habbergham family in the 14th centy. The old castle of Hapton was once the seat of the Towneleys, who had a large park here of 10 miles in circumference. It still contains traces of the pitfalls dug for impounding stray deer, when the two families of the Towneleys and the Habberghams were on bad terms with each other. After the death of Charles Towneley at Marston Moor, it was sequestered. To the S. is *Hamedon Hill*, locally celebrated for its building-stone quarries of carbonaceous sandstone. A Roman road runs near the foot of Hapton Scouts.

21 m. at *ROSEBORN JUNC.* the branch to Todmorden (Rte. 29) is given off, the main line turning to the l. to

22½ m. *Burnley Stat.* (Inn: Bull, inferior). Burnley, anciently called Brunley, from its situation at the confluence of the little river Brun with the Calder, is a large manufacturing town, containing about 21,000 Pop. dependent on spinning and weaving, and the woollen trade. Except for the pretty scenery in the neighbourhood, the tourist need not be detained, for the town is dirty and contains but little of interest.

The church dates from the time of Edward III., but has been frequently repaired and added to: it contains nave, with aisles, chancel, chapels, and tower. The Towneley family have a number of monuments here in the Towneley Chapel,

at the E. of the N. aisle, amongst which is one to Charles Towneley, the antiquary (d. 1805). He resided many years in Rome, and formed the large collection of antique marbles, known as the Towneley marbles, in the British Museum. The E. end of the S. aisle is occupied by the Stansfield Chapel, which contains a monument to the wife of Major Thursby. The chancel has a stained-glass window in memory of Archdeacon Master.

Burnley contains the usual business and municipal institutions, and also a *Grammar School* founded in 1650, which contains some valuable classical works bequeathed by one of the rectors of Slaidburn. "Many pure Danish words are still current in Burnley, and are very expressive in their meaning."

In the neighbourhood of the town are *Bank Hall*, the seat of Gen. the Hon. Sir Jas. Scarlett; *Towneley Hall* (Col. Towneley); (Rte. 29); and *The Holme* (J. H. Whitaker, Esq.), the former residence of Dr. Whitaker, the antiquary and historian of Whalley (Rte. 32); also the following old houses—*Fulledge*, ¼ m. S.E., between Burnley and Towneley; *Royle*, on the banks of the Calder, 1 m. N.W., built in the 17th centy.; *Heywardsforth*, 1 m. N.E., on the banks of the Brun, the seat, in Edward II.'s time, of Oliver Stansfield; and *Danes* or *Dancer House*, ½ m. N., once the property of the ancient family of Foldys. Many pretty excursions can be made from Burnley along the vale of Calder to Todmorden (Rte. 29), over the moors of Cliviger to Bacup, by Deerplay Hill, 7 m. (Rte. 31), and to Whalley, 6 m., through Padham, 3 m.

Rail to Todmorden, 8½ m.; Rochdale, 16½ m.; Colne, 5½ m.; Skipton, 18 m.; Accrington, 5½ m.; Blackburn, 11 m.; Manchester, 27 m. (by Rochdale). 3½ m. to the E., at the foot of *Hamedon Hill*, is *Estwistle*

Hall, an old ruined residence of the Parkers in the 16th centy.; and between it and Burnley is *Bowley*, the old seat of the Halsteads, of the date of 1543. Lawrence Halstead was keeper of the records in the Tower, and so determined a Royalist, that he was excepted out of all acts of indemnity in the treaties between Charles I. and the Parliament.

The rly. continues northward through a broken and picturesque district to 25 m. *Briarfield Stat.* On rt. is the manufacturing village of *Marsden* and *Marsden Hall* (W. Pinder, Esq.), and l. are *Old Laund Hall* and *Carr Hall* (T. E. Clayton, Esq.).

26 m. *Nelson Stat.*

28 m. *Colne Stat.* (Inn: Swan.)

Upon the ridge of a hill stands the little town of Colne, which, from the discovery of rings and coins at various times, is supposed to have been the site of the Roman station, *Colunio* of the *Ravennas*. Colne, which is rather decayed, was formerly noted for its trade in woollen and worsted goods; and a building still exists, called *The Piece Hall*, once used as a sort of exchange, but now for general purposes. "In the 4th of Edward II. there was one fulling-mill, charged at 6s. 8d.; a circumstance which implies that cloth was manufactured here at an early period, and contradicts the generally received opinion that English wool was universally manufactured in Flanders, till an Act of the 10th of Edward III." *Dugdale*.

The church is of the 16th centy., and contains nave, low tower, side aisles, chancel, and 2 chapels; that on the N. of the chancel belonging to the family of Bannister, of Parkhill, and on the S. to the Townleys, of Barnside, an old house in the neighbourhood. In the interior is a carved wood screen. The E. and W. windows are Perp., and there are some

Norm. columns in the N. aisle. "Against the E. wall of the N. chapel, is a singular Latin inscription, cut upon oak, and probably of the date of 1508, in which a fervent invocation is breathed to the Virgin, by William Hyrd, for protection against diabolical illusions in the hour of death."—*Baines*. Close to the ch.-yard is the *Grammar School*, where Archbishop Tillotson was educated. He was a native of these parts, his mother being a Nutter of Pendle.

There are several old houses in the neighbourhood; and *Colne Hall*, where Henry VI. once stayed, is now a mean cottage. *Langroyd Hall* (W. T. Carr, Esq.) is an old mansion partly modernised. *Barnside*, the old residence of the Townley family, is 3 m. to the E., and belonged to the Priory of St. John of Pontefract. It is a strongly built house in a very bleak, wild situation. *Emmott Hall* (G. G. Emmott, Esq.), $2\frac{1}{2}$ m. on the Skipton road, near Laneshaw Bridge. The old house was built by Robert de Emot in 1310; though it is said that even before this time there was a Duc de Emot who came over with William the Conqueror and settled here. Camden mentions that in the Emmott pastures grew two rare Lancashire plants, *Lichen glaucus* and *L. ampullaceus*.

1 m. to S. of Emmott is *Wycoller Hall*, now a ruin, but formerly the seat of the Hartleys and afterwards of the Cunliffes, a member of which family made himself obnoxious to the Government of the Commonwealth.

Wycoller was a very characteristic mansion, seated at the foot of the wild moors that form the Forest of Trawden, and still contains a noble fire-place detached from the wall, with stone benches all round it. In the possession of the Cunliffes is an old MS. which gives a

description of family life there in former days:—

“At Wycoller Hall they usually kept open house for 12 days at Christmas. Their entertainment was a long table, plenty of frumenty like new milk made of husked wheat, boiled and roasted beef, with a fat goose and pudding, with plenty of good beer for dinner. A round-about fire-place, surrounded with stone benches, where the young folks sat and cracked nuts and diverted themselves; and in this manner the sons and daughters got matching without going much from home.”

The dialect of this district is very peculiar, “being a mixture of Lancashire and the Craven. The verb ‘to gawm’ is used to imply to *understand*, and hence the word ‘gawmless,’ which is a genuine provincialism of the county. The general patois is very rugged, and the natural sound *oo* is perverted into that of *oy*, as ‘spoyrn’ and ‘noyn’ for *spoon* and *noon*. The fame of the Pendle witches extended to Colne; and to guard the inhabitants against their machinations, Margaret Pearson, of Padiham, one of the weird sisters, was placed, in 1612, upon the pillory here, by sentence of Sir Edward Bromley. It does not appear that the inhabitants of the district took any very prominent part in the Civil Wars; but, in a despatch sent to Parliament in 1642, they are commemorated amongst ‘sturdy churls,’ who were ready to fight against the king’s forces ‘rather than that the beef and fat bacon should be taken from them.’”

—*Baines.*

From Colne the rly. passes rt. *Alkincoats*, the ancient seat of the De Alkincoats in Edward II.’s time, and now of E. Parker, Esq. There are large canal reservoirs, near

Foulridge Stat. Crag House (W. H. Wood, Esq.) Here the rly. enters Yorkshire (*Handbook for Yorkshire*).

ROUTE 34.

FROM MANCHESTER TO WIGAN BY
ECCLES AND TYLDESLEY.

London and North-Western Railway.

Leaving Manchester by the Victoria terminus, and passing the local stations of *Ordsal Lane*, *Cross Lane*, and *Weasts*, the traveller arrives at

$\frac{3}{4}$ m. **ECCLES JUNC.** The village of Eccles, though it is now so built over as almost to form a residential suburb of Manchester, is a village of very considerable antiquity, and possesses many features of interest. Adam de Eccles is said to have held land here in the time of William II., and a John Eccles was Abbot of Whalley 140 years after its foundation (temp. Henry VI.). Two Roman roads run through the parish, from Blackrod to Manchester, and from Manchester to the Roman station at Wilderspool, near Warrington.

The *church*, dedicated to St. Mary de Eccles (= de Ecclesiâ), was well restored in 1863, and is now one of

the best parish churches in Lancashire. It consists of nave, with aisles (formerly used as family chantries or chapels), chancel, and tower, from which the curfew is nightly rung. The nave is separated from the aisles by octangular pillars, and contains a good carved timber roof: and, in the chancel, the recumbent figures of Richard Brereton, of Worsley, and his dame, with their infant son in swaddling clothes. She is attired in large ruffs round her neck and ankles. There are also monuments to the Dauntseys of Agecroft Hall (17th centy.), and one to the Rev. Dr. Marsden, a late vicar.

Eccles church formerly possessed four chantries, viz. :—

1. St. Catherine's, founded by Thomas Bothe, of Barton, 1368. This was extinguished in the 16th centy., and its site is marked by a chapel on the S. side.

2. The Bothe, or Booth Chapel, also founded by a member of the same family.

3. The Jesus Chapel, founded by William Bothe, 1460. It is on the N. side, and now called the Trafford Chapel, from its belonging to that family, who also claim proprietorship of the church porch.

4. The Holy Trinity Chantry, founded by Sir Gerald Massey, of Worsley, in the 15th centy. This is now called the Bridgewater Chapel, and the organ is placed in it. Some of the old church documents are very curious. "By a vestry order, dated Aug. 27, 1595, the churchwardens were empowered to appoint places in the church for the gentlemen of the parish, and for the vicar, and to place the rest of the parishioners as were husbandmen and cottagers, as others of meaner estate and calling, having reference to their charges and payments to the church. Servants, boys, young women, or children, not to presume into the upper places or pews; if

they do, the churchwardens to remove them to seats or standing room in the inferior places in the church. Seats high in the church were appointed to the wives of Eccles, in proportion to the sums paid by their husbands as church lay, beginning with 11d. or above; next, 9d. to 11d., 7d. to 9d., 5d. to 7d., 3d. to 5d., 2d. to 3d., and 1d. to 2d. To all householding men paying 1d. to 12d., seats on certain settles below those who pay 12d. a piece. Still lower to those paying 1d., and lowest seats of all to old people living on benevolence."—*Baines.*

There is a curious story about the tithes of Eccles, which in the reign of Henry VIII. belonged to Brandon, Duke of Suffolk. A cock-fight took place at Westminster, when the Duke fought a main with one of the Andertons of Lydiate, the stakes to be the Eccles tithes. The Lancashire gentleman produced a magnificent duck-winged cock, observing :—

"There is a jewel of England!
For a hundred in hand
And a hundred in land,
I'll fight him against any cock in England."

He won the victory, and to this day duck-winged cocks are called "Anderton jewels."

Eccles was long celebrated for its festivals and *wakes*, which still survive, though in a very mutilated fashion.

In Lancashire and the North generally, wakes have always been an institution of some importance in the country districts, being generally kept on the anniversary of the patron saint. They were originally a religious observance, but, according to Dugdale, the people "fell to lecherie and songs, dancing, harping, piping, and also to glotony and sinne, and so turned holiness to cursedness." The commission appointed by Queen Elizabeth put down for a time all such frivolous

vanities, but the publication of the 'Book of Sports,' and the permission granted by King James I. at Houghton Tower (Rte. 33), re-established them with more than the former importance and licence. Large sums were spent by the villagers in decorations and games. It is mentioned in a rare tract published in 1778, that at the festival called Gyt Ale, or Guising, held at marling, or mairing season, the Eccles inhabitants spent on one occasion 2242*l.*, an enormous sum for those times. Each township vied with its neighbour as to which should be most extravagant, an ambition which frequently led to village broils and disturbances.

"Eccles cakes," which were great features in these saturnalia, are still an object of local celebrity.

There are many interesting old residences in the neighbourhood. *Trafford Park*, on l., is the seat of Sir Humphrey de Trafford, a Roman Catholic family, which has been seated here from before the Conquest, and held direct and uninterrupted possession for eight centuries; in fact, the pedigree commences with Randolphus de Trafford, in the time of Canute the Dane, 1030. The house is modern, but a portion of the gables of the old building is attached to it.

Beacliffe Hall, on rt. (J. Worrall, Esq.), occupies the site of an older one called Beacliffe, the seat of the Holts in the reign of Henry VII.

Monks Hall (W. Drinkwater, Esq.) is a timber-and-plaster house, in 1696 the seat of Ellis Hey, who compounded for his estate with the Parliament. The author of Ainsworth's Latin Dictionary is said to have spent his early days here.

An immense number of coins, 6000 in number, were discovered here, of the reigns of John, William I., &c.

3 m. *Worsley Stat.* The founder

of the family of Worsley is said to have been a personage of the name of Elias at the time of the Conquest, of such gigantic stature that he was usually termed *Elias gigas*. From the De Workesleys, or Worsleys, the estates descended by marriage to the Masseys of Tatton, and from them by marriage of their heiress Joan to the Stanleys, of Holt, in Derbyshire. By marriage again of Joan Stanley, the Breretons succeeded, and on the death of Richard Brereton in 1598 without issue, the property was left to his wife and half-brother, Sir Thomas Egerton, whose son was created Earl of Bridgewater. Scroope Egerton, the 4th Earl, was created Duke of Bridgewater, and was the first to entertain the idea of inland navigation, although it came to nothing in his time. But his second son, Francis, who became 3rd Duke of Bridgewater, was the one who made himself an undying name in connection with canal navigation. On his death, unmarried, in 1803, the title became extinct. The Earldom of Bridgewater went with the Ashridge estate to Gen. Egerton, while Worsley went to the Duke of Sutherland, with remainder to his second son, Lord Francis Leveson Gower. He, on succeeding to the estate, took the well known name of Lord Francis Egerton, and was created Earl of Ellesmere in 1846. *Worsley Hall* (Earl of Ellesmere) is a magnificent building in the Tudor style, placed in the midst of charming gardens and grounds. To the N. of it is *Old Worsley Hall* (Hon. Algonon Egerton), an interesting wood-and-plaster mansion, with pointed gables. "This house, the successive residence of the Worsleys, Masseys, Stanleys, Breretons, and Egertons, is now remarkable as the depository of a series of spirited, grotesque, and allegorical heads, with an intermixture of ornamental devices engraved on oaken panels,

and brought within the present century from one of the state rooms of Hulme Hall, Manchester, one of the manorial residences of the Prestwiches. Many of the sculptured heads represent the domestic buffoons of the 16th century, to which period this sculpture is to be referred. Others are suggested by the religious mysteries, which found in early times such inexhaustible subjects for the painter and the sculptor. These heads much resemble those carved images seen so frequently in the choirs of ecclesiastical buildings, which, from their satirical caricatures of the monastic orders or regular clergy, seem to have been executed under the direction of their rivals, the secular clergy. The costumes appear to be mostly of the fashion of the reigns of Henry VII. and Henry VIII.; as one of the panels represents the Eagle and Child, the Stanley crest, it is not improbable that they were executed under the order of one of the James Stanleys, Wardens of Manchester College from 1506 to 1515, and they may have been intended for that church, but placed in Hulme Hall for security, in the antiquated times of the Reformation."—*Baines*.

As being the centre from whence originated the celebrated *Bridgewater canal*, Worsley will ever be a locality of great interest. Although the first Duke obtained an Act to commence a canal from Worsley to the Irwell, it was never begun by him, and it remained for Francis, 3rd and last Duke, to commence a work which, for perseverance and singlehanded daring, has rarely, if ever, had its parallel.

Smarting under the rupture of his engagement with the gay Duchess of Hamilton, he returned to his estate, and called in John Gilbert, his steward, to see if they could devise the cutting of a canal by which the coals on the estate might be taken to Manchester. He

therefore, in 1759, applied for and obtained an Act to make a canal between Worsley and Salford, and to extend it westward to the Mersey. The rising town of Manchester was equally interested with the Duke, for he bound himself not to charge more than 2s. 6d. per ton freight for coals (whereas the old Mersey Company charged 3s. 4d.), and not to sell the coal at Manchester for more than 4d. a hundred. At the outset a difficulty occurred, it having been proposed to descend from the colliery at Worsley to the Irwell by a series of levels which would have entailed a very expensive system of working.

The Duke then called in the assistance of James Brindley, the engineer who, after making an "ochilor servey or a riconitoring," advised that the canal should be carried on the same level over the Irwell. For this a second act was necessary, and obtained, and the canal was therefore taken across the Irwell at Barton by an aqueduct. "A large basin was excavated at Worsley Mill, of sufficient capacity to contain a great many boats, and to serve as a head for the navigation. It is at Worsley Basin that the canal enters the bottom of the hill by a subterranean channel which extends for a great distance—connecting the different workings of the mine, so that the coals can be readily transported in boats to their place of sale. It lies at the base of a cliff of sandstone, some hundred feet in height, overhung by luxuriant foliage, beyond which is seen the graceful spire of Worsley Ch. The barges, laden with coal, emerge from the river through the two low semicircular arches opening at the base of the rock, such being the entrances to the underground workings. The barges are narrow and long, each conveying about 10 tons of coal. They are drawn along the tunnels by means of staples fastened to the sides. When they are empty,

and consequently higher in the water, they are so near the roof that the bargemen, lying on their backs, can propel them with their feet. The smaller aperture is the mouth of a canal of only half-a-mile in length, serving to prevent the obstruction which would be caused by the ingress and egress of so many barges through a single passage. The other archway is the entrance of a wider channel, extending nearly 6 m. in the direction of Bolton, from which various other canals diverge in different directions.

"In Brindley's time this subterranean canal, hewn out of the rock, was only about a mile in length, but it now extends to nearly 40 m. in all directions underground. When the tunnel passed through earth or coal, the arching was of brickwork—but when it passed through rock it was hewn out. This tunnel acts not only as a drain and water-feeder for the canal itself, but as a means of carrying the facilities of the navigation through the very heart of the collieries."—*Smiles.*

The village of Worsley betokens in its accessories the presence of a careful patron, and contains a beautiful Gothic ch. by *G. G. Scott*, a town hall, library, schools, &c.

A little to the rt. of the rly. is *Kempnall Hall*, now a farmhouse, an old wood-and-plaster building, approached by two gates. It is the property of *Le Gendre Starkie, Esq.*, of *Huntroyde*, near *Padigham*, whose ancestor, *Nicholas Starkie*, lived here in 1578. *Kempnall* during his tenure became very notorious, on account of the demons that entered into and tormented his family for more than 2 years. First of all his two children, aged 9 and 10, were afflicted, and the father applied to *John Hartley*, a reputed conjuror, to give them relief. He, therefore, took up his abode there,

and made himself so much at home that he refused to go when requested, and when *Mr. Starkie* finally got rid of him, five of his family were possessed of devils. *Dr. Dee*, the Warden of *Manchester*, then advised godly preaching; but for a long time the remedy was useless, the house being a perfect *Bedlam*, and the sick people blaspheming and abusing everybody who came near them. It at length required the presence of 80 godly people before the devils were expelled. *Hartley* was taken up and tried, when he confessed that the devils were sent by him, and was accordingly executed.

1 m. to the N. is *Wardley Hall*, a fine old quadrangular wood and plaster hall of the time of *Edward VI.*, entered by an archway into a court. The hall has a good oak roof, and the arms of the *Downes*, the former possessors, who succeeded the *Tyldesleys*, and were themselves succeeded by *Lord Barrymore*. It is now the property of the *Earl of Ellesmere*. *Roger Downes*, one of this family, was a noted profligate, and one night, after a drunken bout, he vowed he would kill the first man that he met, who proved to be an unfortunate tailor. Soon afterwards a watchman made a stroke at him with his weapon and severed his head from the body, sending the former in a box to his sister at *Wardley Hall*. It was placed in a niche in the wall near the staircase, and became very averse to being removed. Many were the attempts to change its position, either from carelessness or frolic, but such disturbances took place that the head was speedily brought back to its old quarters. In *Roby's 'Lancashire Traditions'* the story is told under the name of "The Skull House."

6½ m. *Ellenbrook Stat.* On the high ground of *Walkden Moor*, 1½ m. rt., is a beautiful memorial by

Jackson to the late dowager Countess of Ellesmere, who died 1866. It is 50 ft. in length, and surmounted by a spire and cross. It is ornamented by four statuettes of a Lancashire operative, a collier, and two factory girls, besides figures of Piety, Charity, Munificence, and Prudence.

9 m. **TYLDESLEY JUNC.**, from whence branches are given off N. to Bolton, S. to **KENYON JUNC.**

The village of Tyldesley contains a handsome E. English ch. from designs by *Smirke*. Here was born Sir Thomas Tyldesley, the famous leader of the Royalists in the Civil Wars, who received the honour of knighthood from Charles I. for his bravery in storming the bridge at Burton-on-Trent. He fell at Wigan Lane, August 25, 1651, in an action against the Parliamentary force under Lilburne. The family of Tyldesley is now extinct. 2 m. E. are *Peel Hall* (Harrison Blair, Esq.) and *Kenyon Peel Hall*, the seat of Lord Kenyon. The latter is a wood and plaster building with a stone gateway containing the inscription, "Peace within these walls, Geo. Rigby, 1637." The former house, known also as Yates Peel Hall, is a partially castellated mansion, consisting of a centre and wings. Over the entrance hall are the arms of the Yates family, of whom was Sir Joseph Yates, Justice of the Common Pleas, 1774.

To the S. of Tyldesley, near *Astley*, is *Astley Hall* (T. M. Froggatt, Esq.), originally known as *Dam House*, and the ancient seat of the *Mort* family.

9½ m. *Chowbent Stat.*, near which is *Atherton*, a little manufacturing town dependent on cotton mills and collieries. There is an old building called the *Chanters*. The *Atherton* family built an enormous house called *Atherton Hall*, but it was never

finished, and eventually was taken down by Lord Lilford. *Chowbent* is famous for the memory of its fighting minister, *Woods*, who led eighty of his congregation into the N., and held the passage of the *Ribble* near *Walton*. He was ever afterwards known as *Gen. Woods*.

[12 m. *Chequerbent Stat.* In the days of *Queen Mary*, one *Ralph Holme*, of *Chequerbent*, had a presentment filed against him by the vicar of *Dean* for "harbouring in his house dyverse priests."

On rt. of rly. is *Hulton Park* (W. F. Hulton, Esq.), who is the 25th in descent that has possessed this estate from *Blethyn de Hulton*, temp. *Henry II.* The old hall has disappeared, and the present house is modern, with a semicircular wing and portico.

14 m. *Daubhill Stat.*

15½ m. **BOLTON JUNC.** (Rte. 82.)

[To *Kenyon Junc.* 5 m. On rt. *Atherton Hall* (W. Selby, Esq.) and *Atherton Old Hall* (J. P. Fletcher, Esq.).

8 m. *Bedford Leigh Stat.* On rt. is the manufacturing town of *Leigh* (Inn: *White Horse*), containing some 10,000 inhabitants, but very little of interest except the ch., which is of *Tudor* date, and consists of nave, chancel, aisles, and 2 chantries or chapels, that of the *Tyldesleys* to the N., and the *Athertons* on the S. "Sir *Thomas Tyldesley*, the hero of the battle of *Wigan Lane*, was interred here in the *Tyldesley Chapel*, although there is no trace of his gravestone; and it is said that *James, Earl of Derby*, on his way through *Leigh* to *Bolton*, previous to his execution, wished to visit the grave of his gallant companion in arms, but was denied that gratification by his military guard."—*Baines*.

Traces of the old moat of the

parsonage are still visible. Amongst the customs of Leigh was the use of a kind of spiced ale called "braggot" on Mid-Lent Sunday, after which the boys used to tease the women on their way to church by hooking a piece of cloth on to their dresses. The neighbourhood abounds with old houses, such as *Shuttleworth Hall*, a farmhouse; *Hope Car*, where the moat is to be seen; and *Platt Fold*, of the date of the 17th century. *Morleys Hall*, between Bedford and Astley, was, in 1586, the seat of Sir William Leylande, from whose family Leland, the antiquary, claimed a descent. He at all events paid a visit to Morleys, and described the house and gardens in a very glowing style. The heiress of one of the Leylandes was shut up in her chamber, on account of an attachment to the heir of the Tyldesleys, whereupon he flung a rope across the moat, which she tied round her waist and was dragged across. The happy couple were away and married before her absence was discovered.

5 m. **KENYON JUNC.** with the Manchester and Liverpool main line (Rte. 37).]

The rly. to Wigan crosses the old Bolton and Kenyon line, and runs through an uninteresting country, abounding in collieries.

13 m. *Hindley Green Stat.*

14 m. *Platt Bridge Stat.*

17 m. **WIGAN JUNC.** (Rte. 26).

ROUTE 35.

MANCHESTER TO PRESTON BY BOLTON AND CHORLEY.

For route from Manchester to Bolton see Rte. 32. From thence the line follows up the valley of the little river Croal, passing, rt., *Gillnough* (J. Haslam, Esq.) to

18½ m. **LOSTOCK JUNC.** with the Wigan and Liverpool line: *Lostock Hall*, on rt., was a fine old half-timbered Elizabethan building, but the greater part of it has been taken down. The date of 1590 and the royal arms are still seen on its front.

17 m. *Horwich and Blackrod Stat.* On rt. the rly. skirts the extensive moors and hilly ground which are such conspicuous features in Mid-Lancashire. They extend from Bolton to near Blackburn; the culminating point being seen in *Rivington Pike*, which, although only rising to the height of 1545 feet, is visible for a great extent, and is of almost proverbial celebrity in Lancashire topography. Leland thus writes of it:—"Aboute Lediate Mosse I began to see a hill or hilles on the right hande, that stil continued on the same hand as a mighty long bank until I came to Lancastre. One part of this hille, when I saw it first, is caullid Faierlokke. But commonly the people thereabout caullith hit Rivenpike. One told me that aboute Lidiate Mosse, under the hille, is a village caullid Riven or Riventon; and thereaboute I markid myselfe that there was a coppe in the hill, as a bakke standing up above, the residue of the hille." Although the word "pike," which means peaked or pointed, is scarcely applicable to the swelling contour and mono-

tonous outlines of the range, Rivington Moors have much beauty, and the tourist should by all means ascend by the banks of the little river Douglas to the beacon tower on the summit, from whence there is an extensive and magnificent view, embracing Preston, the whole of the Fylde plain, the estuaries of the Ribble and the Wyre, the Bay of Morecambe, Blackpool, and Southport; and far north are the faint outlines of the great Lake mountains. The view in the immediate neighbourhood is one of busy industry, including Bolton, Preston, Chorley, Wigan, and a number of manufacturing villages; while directly at the feet are the large and by no means unpicturesque reservoirs for supplying Liverpool with water. The beacon tower was built at the time of the Spanish Armada. A document is in existence in the Harleian Collection with regard to a vote of taxation, issued by her Majesty's Privy Council, for watching "Ryven Pike and carrying armour," towards which the parishes of Manchester, Bolton, and Middleton were required to contribute. Further on the Moor are two heaps of stones, known as the "Two Lads," or the "Wilder Lads," supposed by the country people to commemorate the death of two shepherd boys (or by others the two sons of Bishop Pilkington) in the snow. The tale is most probably incorrect. These mural monuments have been gradually accumulated by the passers-by—a custom handed down from the most remote ages—and there is little doubt but that they are remnants yet lingering amongst us of the altars upon the hill, once dedicated to Baal or Bel.—*Roby.* There is a popular tradition that Rivington Moor is the nightly resort of a spectre horseman, which forms the subject of one of Mr. Roby's 'Traditions of Lancashire.'

Horwich, which is now a manu-

facturing village of some size, containing bleaching-works and cotton-mills, was formerly a vast forest, sloping down to the sides of Rivington Pike, 16 miles in circumference. It then belonged to the Greasleys, Lords of Manchester; but probably the abundance of its fuel was the cause of its destruction, for we read that Horwich became one of the very earliest places for spinning yarn in the time of Henry VIII.

Blackrod, the seat of a manor-house of the De Blakerods in the time of John, contains nothing of interest but a grammar-school founded, in 1568, by Richard Holmes.

19 m. *Adlington Stat.* There is a considerable manufactory here of mordants for dyeing (see *Introduction*, p. xi). On l., 1 m., is *Adlington Hall* (J. S. Greene, Esq.), an old seat of the Standish family. It afterwards came into the possession of the Claytons, one of whom was Richard Clayton, Lord Chief Justice of Ireland.

On the rt. a pretty walk of little more than a mile leads to the *Rivington Reservoirs*, by which Liverpool is supplied with water, at an expense of 700,000*l.* The Act was obtained in 1847. The total area is 500 acres, which are divided by an embankment into two portions, the Rivington and the Anglezark reservoirs; the former contains 1300 millions and the latter 1800 millions of gallons, which are supplied from the rivers Douglas, Yarrow, Roddlesworth, and their tributaries, that drain the high grounds of Rivington and Anglezark Moors. In rainy seasons, when the reservoirs are full, there are really fine waterfalls over the steps intended for overflows. The length of the lakes is so great that they form an exceedingly picturesque element in the landscape, and advantage has been taken of them to erect some handsome residences, with grounds

running down to the water's edge. On the E. bank, just above the middle embankment, is the *Blackmoor's Head Inn*, a great resort for picnic and excursion parties in the summer, for whose accommodation a daily omnibus runs from Bolton.

Close to the inn is the village of *Rivington*, which possesses a *Grammar School*, founded in the reign of Queen Elizabeth by Bishop Pilkington, "for the bringing up, teaching, and instructing children and youth in grammar and other good learning, to continue for ever." The family of Pilkington, of which the Bishop was a celebrated member, lived at Rivington Hall, and was settled here before the Conquest, it being recorded that the chief of the family was fain to disguise himself as a mower for espousing the cause of Harold.

The Bishop was Master of St. John's College, Cambridge, and one of the six divines for correcting the Book of Common Prayer, and was appointed Bishop of Durham in 1560. According to Strype, "he was a grave and truly reverend man, of great learning and piety, and such frugality of life as well became a modest Christian prelate." He had not been long instituted to his office, when he had the courage to bring an action against the Queen for a recovery of the forfeited estates, which he won, although charged with an annuity to the Crown of 1020*l.*

Few men in those troublesome times were such ardent reformers as Bishop Pilkington in ecclesiastical matters. "It is to be lamented," says he, "how negligently they (the clergy) say any service, and how seldom. Your cures all, except Rochdale, be as far out of order as the worst in all the country. Whalley hath as ill a vicar as the rest. The Bishop of Man liveth here at ease and as merry as Pope Joan. The Bishop of Chester hath compounded

with my Lord of York for his visitation, and gathereth up the money by his servants, but never a word spoken of any visitation or reformation."

The tourist should not leave Rivington without visiting *Dean Wood*, a most charming glen (about $\frac{3}{4}$ m. N.E.), running up towards Rivington Moor. At its head is a pretty waterfall.

The rly. now passes l., S., *Ellerbeck House* (R. Smethurst, Esq.) and *Duxbury Hall* (C. Standish-Standish, Esq.), an ancestor of whom distinguished himself in Richard II.'s reign by helping to kill Wat Tyler. "The King, though he was but a child in years, yet, taking courage to him, commanded the mayor to arrest him. The mayor, being a man of incomparable boldness, rode to him and arrested him, in reaching him such a blow on the head that he sore astonished him therewith; and straightweyes others that were about the King, as John Standish, an esquire, and divers more of the King's servants, drew their swords and thrust him through in divers parts of his bodie, so that he fell presentlie from his horse downe to the earth, and died there in the place."—*Holinshed*. Another of the family of Standish was knighted for his valour at the Battle of Hopton Field, 1482, while Henry Standish was Bishop of St. Asaph in 1519, and was instrumental in obtaining Queen Catherine's divorce from Hen. VIII.

22 m. CHORLEY JUNC. with the St. Helen's, Wigan, and Blackburn Rly. *Chorley Inn*: Royal Oak) is a busy little manufacturing town of some 16,000 inhab. dependent on cotton-mills and calico-printing, the latter being carried on at Birk-acre on a very large scale. Leland describes it as "Chorle, wonderful poore, and having no market." The town possesses but little of interest except the *ch.*, which has a pinnaced

tower and contains some fragmentary stained glass with armorial bearings, and some modern memorial windows to the Standish and Crosse families. The Standish pew has a finely carved oak canopy. At the bottom of the ch. wall is a perforated stone, held in great veneration by the Roman Catholics. Another oh. (E. Eng.) was built in 1825.

In the Roman Catholic chapel are some handsome windows by *Hardman*, and a series of paintings in the arcades over the altar. Adjoining the town, on the W., is *Astley Hall* (R. Towneley Parker, Esq.), a fine old Elizabethan residence, supposed to have been built by Robert Charnock, one of the Lancashire gentlemen who signed a declaration of loyalty to the Queen and subsequently to James I. It then came by marriage to the Brooks, of Mere, in Cheshire, and by marriage of their heiress to the Towneley Parkers. Oliver Cromwell is said to have slept here after the battle of Preston, 1648. Amongst the furniture is an ancient oak shovel or shove-groat table. Shakespeare alludes to this game in Henry IV.:—"Hit him down, Bardolph, like a shove-groat shilling."

Gillibrand Hall, 1 m. S.W. (H. Woods, Esq.) was the seat of the Fazakerleys; the old hall, of which only a portion of the moat is left, having been the residence of the Gillibrand family. The approach from the N. is over a handsome three-arched bridge.

A road on N. runs to *Whittle Springs*, 6 m., passing *Shawe Hill* (T. B. Crosse, Esq.), a fine modern mansion of Grecian character. The entablature running round the staircase is copied from the Temple of Jupiter Stator at Rome, and the lodge from an Ionic temple on the banks of the Kissus. The grounds were laid out by *Gilpin*. *Whittle Springs* has a local celebrity on account of its mineral springs, which

rise for some considerable depth from the coal-beds beneath, and are very beneficial in cases of rheumatism and chronic sores. For the accommodation of visitors an hotel has been built, and a kind of pump-room.

At *Euxton Juno.*, 25 m., the line joins the London and North-Western Railway, and passes *Leyland* and *Farrington* Stations (Rte. 26) to *Preston*.

ROUTE 86.

FROM ROCHDALE TO LIVERPOOL BY BURY, BOLTON AND WIGAN.

For the branch of the Lancaster and Yorkshire Rly., between Rochdale, Heywood, and Bury, see Rte. 29. From Bury the line runs westward, crossing the Irwell and the Manchester Canal, by the side of which there is a large reservoir or feeder.

2½ m. *Black Lane Stat.* To rt. is the village of *Ainsworth*, which, in the reign of Edward, belonged to the Abbot of Cokersand.

4 m. *Bradley Fold Stat.* To l. is *Little Lever*, a mining village situated near the confluence of the Croal and Irwell. The old Hall, the seat of the Levers in the 16th

centy., is no longer in existence; but Little Lever is celebrated as the birthplace of at least two Lancashire worthies. One was Dr. Thomas Lever, Master of St. John's College, Cambridge, and chaplain to Edward VI. During the troublous times of Queen Mary he fled to Switzerland, where he was chosen pastor of the congregation at Zürich. Under his presidency St. John's College became a hotbed of the doctrines of the Reformation, so much so, that he was convened before the Archbishop of York and deprived of his ecclesiastical preferment. Like Bishop Pilkington, he was an ardent reformer of abuses; and it was entirely owing to his exertions that the Hospital of Sherburne, to the head of which he was appointed, was rescued from its state of decay.

The second celebrity to whom Little Lever can lay claim was Oliver Heywood, a nonconformist divine in the 17th centy., who, during the reign of Charles II., underwent much persecution on account of his opinions, which were only allowed full scope when James II. came to the throne. His diary shows that he was an earnest and energetic man. In it he says, "This year, 1678, I preached 64 times on week-days, have kept fifty fast days, four days of thanksgiving, and travelled one thousand and thirty-four miles." Another passage bears testimony to the length of sermons in those days. "Lord's Day preached too long, being under a mistake a whole hour. I was employed six hours—not weary." It is a question whether his congregation could say as much.

Lomax Fold is the residence of Peter Lomax, Esq.

Darcy Lever Old Hall (W. Horridge, Esq.), a picturesque old building with wood-and-plaster gables, is the original seat of the Levers, one of whom was the founder of the Bolton Grammar School.

The *New Hall* (W. Gray, Esq.) was built in the last centy.

Bradshaw Hall (T. Hardcastle, Esq.) is an old 17th-centy. house, built by the Bradshaws, the owners of Marple, in Cheshire (Rte. 16). Of this family was John Bradshaw, the president of the court that tried Charles I.; according to Clarendon, "a gentleman of ancient family, but of a fortune of his own making; not without parts, but of great insolence and ambition."

Crossing the Tonge, the rly. enters BOLTON (Rte. 32).

Quitting Bolton, the line runs up the little valley of the Croal, passing l. *Dean*, the *ch.* of which parish contains a timber roof, dated 1570, and some armorial bearings of the Yates and Huttons on banners and glass. Dean played an important part in the religious politics of the 16th centy. "The preaching of John Bradford and George Marsh in this parish seems to have imbued the minds of the people with a strong feeling in favour of the Puritans; and hence we find, during the period of the Commonwealth, Mr. Horrocks, of Dean, delegated to the Westminster Assembly of Divines; and James Walker, of Dean, in the second Presbyterian classis of Lancashire; while at the Restoration, the Rev. John Tildesley, vicar of Dean, was ejected from his living."—*Baines*. Mr. Horrocks appears to have been an object of special disgust to Prince Rupert's troopers, who exclaimed, after the Bolton massacre, "Oh, that we had that old rogue Horrocks, that preacher in his grey cloake."

Amongst other worthies of Dean was George Marsh, 1555, curate of this parish, who was apprehended for preaching the reformed doctrine, and brought before Mr. Barton, of Smithills (Rte. 32). After a formal examination at Lancaster, before the Earl of Derby, he was taken to

Spital Boughton, near Chester, and there burnt to death. Of this parish, too, was Dr. Martin Heton, Bishop of Ely in 1599, to whom Queen Elizabeth wrote the following letter, when he hesitated to comply with one of her demands:—

“Proud prelate,—I understand you are backward in complying with your agreement, but I would have you to know that I, who made you what you are, can unmake you—and if you do not forthwith fulfil your agreement, by God I will immediately unrook you. Yours, as you demean yourself,

“ELIZABETH.”

Dr. Bancroft, Archbishop of Canterbury, was born at Farnworth in this parish (Rte. 32).

9 m. **LOSROCK JUNC.** with the Chorley line to Preston.

Westhoughton Stat. The village, which lies to the l., was once part of the possessions of Cockersand Abbey. On the adjoining moor Prince Rupert assembled his forces to lead them to the attack upon Bolton.

At 11½ m. **HINDLEY JUNC.**, a short connecting branch comes in from Chorley, placing it in more direct communication with Wigan. rt. *Hindley Hall* (Roger Leigh, Esq.). During the Civil War, a party of Cavaliers pulled down the pulpit in Hindley Ch., played at cards in the pews, and tore the Bible in pieces, sticking the leaves upon posts in the village, and saying, “This is the Roundhead Bible.”

13 m. *Ince Stat.* The country about here is completely devoted to collieries and ironworks, conspicuous amongst which are the blazing furnaces of the Kirkless Hall Company. The *Rosebridge Colliery*, at Ince, was for many years the deepest in the world, coal having been won at a depth of 600 yards. But increased geological knowledge has developed coal-mining so much, that

that depth has been exceeded in other parts of the kingdom. On rt. is *Ince Hall* (W. Gerrard, Esq.), a fine old gabled building.

15 m. **WIGAN JUNC.** (Rte. 26). From hence the line runs due W., crossing under the London and North-Western through an uninviting colliery district to

16½ m. *Pemberton Stat.*

18 m. *Upholland Stat.* On l. *Winstanley Hall*, the finely wooded residence of M. Bankes, Esq., and the high ground of *Billinge Beacon*. On rt. are *Orrel Mount*, formerly a nunnery of French Benedictines; and *Orrel Hall*, a farmhouse of Elizabethan date.

Bispham Hall (W. H. Brancker, Esq.). At the village of Upholland, which was formerly a market-town, 1 m. rt., are a few remains of the *Benedictine Priory* of Black Monks founded by Robert de Holland. The family of the Hollands was seated here since the reign of John, and rose to high rank in the county. Thomas de Holland became Earl of Kent, and another member was Duke of Exeter and Earl of Huntingdon. After the deposition of Henry VI, with whom he was a great favourite, he became reduced to such poverty that he was obliged to beg his bread, and his body was eventually found floating in the Channel near Dover. During the Reformation they were great Puritans, and Richard Holland, the High Sheriff, received the thanks of the Queen for his services in prosecuting recusants. The remains of the priory consist of a high ivy-covered wall, with 5 square windows in it, and there are traces of arches in a house built close by. The ch. has nave, aisles, chancel, and massive low tower. On the S. side are some oriel windows, and it had a noble E. window, which fell in 1840. The interior contains a good semicircular tower arch and some *brasses* of the Bispham family. In

the churchyard is a tombstone, with the following grandiloquent inscription:—

“HERE UNDERNEATH,
THOU DOST APPROACH THE
BODY OF JOHN SMITH,
THE COACHMAN.”

19½ m. *Pimbo Lans Stat.*

22 m. RAINFORD JUNC. with the St. Helen's and Ormskirk line. The village of *Rainford*, 1 m. l., is noted for the number of people employed in tobacco-pipe making.

26½ m. *Kirkby Stat.* The *ch.*, dedicated to St. Chad, contains a Saxon font, which is said to have been here since the time of William Rufus. “The base is decorated with 2 wreathed bands, while on the sides are figures representing the Fall, the Saviour bruising the Serpent's Head, and seven other figures in ecclesiastical costume, supposed to represent the orders of clergy in the Saxon church.”

To the rt. of (28½ m.) *Fazakerley Stat.* is the Liverpool race-course at *Aintree*.

30 m. WALTON JUNC. with the Ormskirk and Preston line.

33 m. *Liverpool* (Rte. 37).

ROUTE 37.

FROM MANCHESTER TO LIVERPOOL
BY NEWTON.

The line, by which the traveller of the present day is conveyed between these two large cities, is classic ground, and deserves something more than a casual mention, for it was practically the inauguration of the great railway system of England.

Even after the completion of the Duke of Bridgewater's canal to the Mersey, one of the most magnificent works of that or any other time, communication between Manchester and Liverpool was difficult and unfrequent, not only for goods, but persons. “In fine weather, those who required to travel the 30 miles which separated them could ride or walk, resting at Warrington for the night. But in winter, the roads, like most of the other country roads at the time, were impracticable, although an act had been passed as early as the year 1726 for repairing and enlarging the road from Liverpool to Prescot. Coaches could not come nearer to the town than Warrington, in 1750, the road being difficult for vehicles, even in summer. A stage-coach was not started between Liverpool and Manchester until the year 1767, performing the journey only three times a week. It required six, and sometimes eight, horses to draw the lumbering vehicle along the ruts and through the sloughs, the whole day being occupied in making the journey. The coach was accustomed to start early in the morning from Liverpool—it breakfasted at Prescot, dined at Warrington, and mostly arrived in Manchester in time for supper. As late as 1775 no mail-coach ran, the

bags being conveyed on horseback."

—*Smiles.*

About the year 1821, trade and manufactures had so much increased in South Lancashire, that a tram-road between the two places was mooted. It was found that it took longer to convey the cotton to Manchester from Liverpool, than it did to bring it to England from America, and for a long time this proved a great stumbling-block in the way of progress. Not only were the canals blocked up with traffic, but the fact of their being the only means of conveyance threw enormous power into the hands of the companies that owned them, who were exorbitant in their charges, and deaf to all remonstrance or abuse. The tramway was broached by a Mr. Sandars, a Liverpool merchant, and a committee having been formed, a survey was made under the greatest difficulties and opposition by Mr. James, of West Bromwich, who foresaw what a radical change it would introduce. The first survey being imperfect, Robert Stephenson was sent from Darlington by his father to assist in making a new one. This proving favourable, a company was formed to make the railway, by which it was hoped and believed that the traffic could be conducted between Manchester and Liverpool in 5 or 6 hours, at one-third of the then cost. The act was obtained in 1825, and the difficulties that surrounded the whole thing are now well-known matters of history, as is also Mr. William Brougham's advice to Stephenson not to mention the possibility of travelling at the rate of 20 miles an hour, unless he wished to damn the whole thing, and run the risk of being sent to Bedlam as a lunatic. But, after an obstinate contest of two months, the promoters gained a victory, the works were commenced, and the portion finished as far as Chat Moss, so that an experimental train filled with passengers passed

over it on New Year's Day, 1825, drawn by the famous 'Rocket' engine, the only one which had fulfilled the requirements of the judges in the memorable locomotive contest at Rainhill. On the 14th June in the same year the whole of the line was finished, and Stephenson himself drove his engine the 'Arrow,' occupying one hour and a half in the journey. The railway was eventually opened on the 15th September by a grand ceremony, at which the Duke of Wellington was present, though it was unfortunately marred by the fatal accident that happened to Mr. Huskisson, one of the members for Liverpool. Notwithstanding the length of time that has elapsed since the opening of this line, and the vast and increasing improvements that have been constantly made to permanent way, engines, rolling stock, and in fact to everything connected with railway property, it is no slight matter that the Liverpool and Manchester Rly. still remains one of the best lines in the kingdom, a lasting monument to the perseverance and talent of Robert Stephenson. The distance of 31 miles is run by the express trains in one hour.

For that portion of the line between Manchester and ECCLES JUNC. 3½ m. see Rte. 34. It continues from thence to 4½ m. *Patricroft Stat.*, a busy manufacturing town of 5000 inhabitants, although a few years ago it only contained one or two rows of houses. Besides cotton mills, there is the Britannia Foundry, of considerable celebrity, belonging to the family of Naamyth, whose name is so well known in connection with machinery generally, and the steam hammer in particular.

[To the l. of Patricroft is the village of *Barton*, where the Irwell is crossed by the Bridgewater Canal

on an aqueduct 200 yds. long and 12 wide, the middle arch of the bridge being 63 ft. span, which enables barges to pass underneath without lowering their masts. This bridge was one of Brindley's earliest canal works, and was considered a great engineering triumph. It is related that on the day the water was let in, he was so anxious and excited that he ran away, and took to his bed until the news was brought that all had passed off successfully.

There are several old houses in the neighbourhood, lying between Barton and the Mersey.

Barton Old Hall, now a gabled farmhouse, was the seat successively of the Bartons, Booths, and Leighs.

Davyhulme Hall (R. H. Norreys, Esq.), on the other side the Irwell, was the seat of John de Hulme (temp. Henry II.).

Irlam Hall, lower down the river, now a farmhouse, belonged to the Irlams in the 15th cent., and then to Sir Geo. Lathom, in whose family it remained until the Revolution, when his estate was alienated. It is a fine old Elizabethan building, and is said to contain the largest beam in the county.

On the N. bank of the Mersey, which here divides Lancashire from Cheshire, are the villages of *Flixton* and *Urmston*.

Flixton Church is a plain old building, with an embattled tower and round-headed windows. It contains a monumental brass representing Richard Radclyffe of Ordsall, his 2 wives, 2 sons, and 3 young daughters in Elizabethan ruffs. Near the village is *Shaw Hall*, now a ladies' school, but once the residence of the Egertons, who held property in this parish, one of whom, Peter Egerton, was a colonel under Fairfax in the Revolution. The hall is of the age of James I., and has the characteristic gables, parapets, and chimneys. The interior

contains some tapestry, and some curious pictures of Persian subjects, one of which covers part of the ceiling, and represents Darius and his family kneeling before Alexander the Great. It is said to be more than 200 years old.

Flixton House (W. W. Wright, Esq.).

Urmston has a handsome new ch. of Dec. style, built in 1868, in which coloured stones have been used with good effect. The *Hall*, now a farmhouse, is an Elizabethan wood- and -plaster building, one gable of which is ornamented with lozenges and trefoils. It was formerly the seat of the Urmstons, and then of the Hydes.

In a house opposite was born John Collier, better known as "Tim Bobbin," who afterwards resided at Milnrow, near Rochdale (Rte. 28), and became one of the Lancashire worthies, as a local humourist and descriptive writer.]

From Patricroft the rly. soon enters the flat and monotonous level of *Chat Moss*, which, though now drained and cultivated, was in old days the most notorious bog in England, being 5 m. long, and containing 6000 acres of peat. Like all great bogs, trunks of trees have been constantly turned up, proving that the surface was originally well covered with fine timber, probably of prehistoric age, as in the 'Domesday Book' no mention is made of it as a forest. Of it Drayton writes—

"Great Chatmosse at every fall
Lyes full of turf and marle, her unctuous
minnerell,
And blocks as blacke as pitch, with boring
augers found
Then at the generell floodes supposed to be
drown'd."

Camden also mentions it, although his description is not very correct: "Chatmosse, a swampy tract of great extent, a considerable part of which was carried off in the last

age by swollen rivers, with great danger, whereby the rivers were infected, and great quantities of their fish died. Instead thereof, there is now a valley watered by a small stream, and many trees were discovered thrown down and lying flat, so that one may suppose when the ground lay neglected, and the waste water of brooks was not drained off into the open valleys, or their courses stopt by neglect and desolation, all the lower grounds were turned into such swamps which we call Mosses." The first attempt at the reclamation of this enormous surface was made in 1805 by Mr. Roscoe, who intersected 2000 acres with open drains, and underdrained a great portion of this. He was followed in 1821 by Mr. Baines (the historian of Lancashire), under whose persevering care some 200 acres were made productive and to yield good crops, while about 200,000 trees, black poplar, Scotch firs, and larches were planted. From the other sides of the bog cultivation gradually spread, and the carrying across it of the Manchester and Liverpool railway accelerated operations very largely, both from the example set by the engineers of what could be done, and from the facilities of communication by which the produce could be conveyed to market. This portion of the line presented what appeared at first to be insuperable difficulties, although the genius of Stephenson soon overcame them, and it really proved the cheapest part of the whole undertaking; Mr. Giles' estimate for it being 270,000*l.*, whereas the total cost was only 28,000*l.* "Although a semifluid mass, the surface of Chat Moss rises above the level of the surrounding country. Like a turtle's back, it declines from the summit in every direction, having from 30 to 40 ft. gradual slope to the solid land on all sides. In rainy weather, such is its capacity for

water, that it sensibly swells and rises in those parts where the moss is deepest."—*Smiles*. When the engineers began to make their preparations, they were obliged to walk on boards fastened to the soles of their feet, as the only way of keeping them from sinking. The difficulty to be solved, therefore, was how a spongy mass which would not bear a man's weight could be made to bear a railway, with locomotives and carriages. This Stephenson managed by making a *floating road*. First of all, a foot-path of heather was made, upon which temporary rails and sleepers were placed to admit of the waggons running along with the necessary materials, while at the same time drains were dug at the sides. Upon the surface between were thrown branches of trees, hedge-cuttings, and, in the softest places, hurdles interwoven with heather. Over these again was a thin layer of gravel, on which the permanent line was laid. The greatest difficulty was found in the rising ground of the middle of the moss, where the drains filled up with spongy bog as fast as they were dry. Stephenson's remedy for this was to lay down a kind of drain or sewer of empty tar-barrels, which were placed as soon as there was room for them, before the cutting had time to fill. Another difficulty was the embankment at the edge of the bog on the Manchester side, which as soon as it was 3 or 4 ft. in height, suddenly disappeared, and this happened not once or twice, but scores of times. In fact, so serious was this part of the undertaking that the directors consulted about abandoning it altogether, or making a viaduct on lofty timber piles. Weeks, however, went by, and there was literally nothing to show for the work, the directors continuing the labour solely because it was judged less expensive to go

on than to stop; and the engineer, because he felt that there must be a bottom somewhere, and that in course of time the embankment must show. "And so the filling went on; several hundred men and boys were employed to skim the Moss all round for many thousand yards by means of sharp spades, called by the turf cutters 'tommy spades,' and the dried cakes of turf were afterwards used to form the embankment, until at length, as the stuff sunk and rested upon the bottom, the bank gradually rose above the surface, and slowly advanced onwards, declining in height, and consequently in weight, until it became joined to the floating road already laid upon the Moss. In the course of forming the embankment, the pressure of the bog-turf tipped out of the waggons caused a copious stream of bog-water to flow from the end of it, in colour resembling stout; and when completed, the bank looked like a long ridge of tightly-pressed tobacco leaf. The compression of the turf may be imagined from the fact that 670,000 cubic yards of raw moss formed only 277,000 cubic yards of embankment at the completion of the work."—*Smiles.*

Little does the traveller, as he speeds along this piece of level, rock of the labour and anxiety that was bestowed on what is apparently the easiest bit of the whole line, or of the unseen wealth of material that lies buried beneath.

8½ m. *Astley Stat.* On rt. are the comparatively high grounds of *Worsley* (Rte. 34), and *Worsley Hall* (Earl of Ellesmere.)

10 m. *Bury Lane Stat.* On l. at the S.W. edge of *Chat Moss*, are *Little and Great Woollen Halls*, the latter now a gabled farmhouse, but once the seat of the *Holcrofts*, "one of a family who shared largely in church property at the Reformation, but

not the notorious Sir Thomas Holcroft, of *Vale Royal*." To the S. are the mosses of *Holcroft*, *Glazebrook*, and *Risley*, which, like *Chat Moss*, are undergoing more or less transformation to civilized and cultivated ground. *Culceth Hall* (l.) the seat of T. E. *Wetherington, Esq.*, was the property of the *Culchits* in Henry II.'s reign. Dr. *Wilson*, Bishop of *Sodor and Man*, was once minister of *Culceth Ch.*

12 m. *KENYON JUNC.* with the *Leigh and Bolton line* (Rte. 34).

A stone between this and *Parkside* marks the spot where Mr. *Huskisson* was struck down by the 'Rocket' engine on the day of the opening of the rly., Sept. 15, 1830, while shaking hands with the Duke of *Wellington*. "It was cited at the time as a remarkable fact, that the 'Northumbrian' engine, driven by *George Stephenson* himself, conveyed the wounded body of the unfortunate gentleman a distance of about 15 miles in 25 minutes, or at the rate of 36 miles an hour."

14 m. *PARKSIDE JUNC.* Here the line to *Wigan*, *Preston*, *Carlisle*, and *Scotland* is given off on rt. (Rte. 26).

Newton Stat., a little beyond which on rt. are the stationery works of *Messrs. M'Corquodale and Co.*

15¼ m. at *EARLESTOWN JUNC.* the line to *Warrington*, *Crewe*, and *London*, is given off on l.

17 m. *Collins Green Stat.*, after which the rly. crosses *Parr Moss* on a solid, though invisible embankment, 25 feet in depth.

19¼ m. *ST. HELEN'S JUNC.* [From hence the tourist may diverge rt. or l. by means of a line from *Widnes* to *St. Helen's* and *Ormskirk*, which crosses the *Manchester and Liverpool rly.* (Rte. 38). On l. is the fine park of *Bold*, the seat of the

Bold family until the middle of the last centy., when, by the failure of male issue, the estate came, by marriage with the heiress of the Bolds, to the Pattens. From them it passed, by marriage with an heiress, into the family of Houghton. The Bolds are mentioned in the Testa de Neville, and were seated here at the Conquest. The chief beauty of Bold is its noble timber, some of the oaks being of great size; the *Old Hall* was built by Richard Bold in the reign of James I., and surrounded by a moat, and on the doorway are his initials and those of his wife, a daughter of Sir Peter Legh of Lyme, with the date 1616. The oak staircase is in good preservation.

Dr. Leigh, who wrote a Natural History of Lancashire and Cheshire, in 1700, mentions the vast quantities of wild ducks which used to frequent the lake in the park, and came to be fed on the beating of a large stone.

On rt. of the line is *St. Helen's* (Rte. 38), which, like the rest of this district, is given up to collieries, glass and chemical, copper and earthenware works.

20½ m. *Lea Green Stat.* There are traces of an old moated house, about ¾ m. on l. Indeed the whole of this neighbourhood, now so utterly devoted to manufacturing purposes, once abounded in ancient residences and crosses, with which probably the Abbey of Windleshaw, near St. Helen's, had some connexion; but they have almost all disappeared, and their place knoweth them no more.

22 m. *Rainhill Stat.* On l. *Rainhill House* (Mrs. Brotherton). Here it was that in 1829 took place the celebrated trial of locomotives previous to the opening of the new rly., which was to decide to the world what kind of locomotive (if

any) would henceforth be used. The competitors were Messrs. R. Stephenson and Co.'s 'Rocket,' Messrs. Braithwaite and Ericson's 'Novelty,' Mr. Timothy Hackworth's 'Sanspareil,' and Mr. Burstall's 'Perseverance.' The ground selected was 2 miles of level railway, each engine to run the distance 20 times. The attendance of spectators and the enthusiasm were tremendous. The 'Rocket' ran 12 miles in 53 minutes, and attained the maximum velocity of 29 miles an hour. The 'Novelty,' although at one time moving at the rate of 24 miles, broke down on the second day, as also did the 'Sanspareil,' while the 'Perseverance' was out of the race at a very early stage. The 'Rocket,' which was the pioneer of all subsequent locomotives, may now be seen in the Museum of Patents at South Kensington.

On the high ground to the rt. of Rainhill, is *Prescot* (*Inn: George*), a busy little manufacturing town, the inhabitants of which are principally employed in making watch movements. No less than 120 people are mentioned in the Directory as engaged in the various subdivisions of this trade, as makers of watch balances, centre pinions, pillars, hands, tools, wheels, cocks, second-hands, fuses, levers, frames, dittons, barrels, &c.

The *ch.* is conspicuous for its lofty tower and spire, 156 ft. high, which is visible for a long distance. It possesses a nave with aisles, transepts, chancel, and a carved timber roof. Amongst the monuments is one to Mr. Atherton, by *Westmacott*, and an upright effigy of Capt. Ogle, in the dress of the 17th centy. The rectorial titles of Prescot were given by James I. to King's College, Cambridge, under the following circumstances. When staying at Knowsley, he was riding in a lanc, and picked up a silver horse-shoe.

At dinner he produced it, thinking it belonged to some of the wealthy noblemen of the county, when it was claimed by the rector of Prescot. The king drily observed that, if the Prescot rectors could afford to waste their money on silver horse-shoes, it was time that it was bestowed where it was more wanted. And so the rector became a vicar. A MS., entitled 'An Abstract of the Proceedings in Prescot Court,' contains some exceedingly funny entries, as follows:—1583: Catherine Dempster, banished the town, being of evil government. 1607: An order against putting butter on bread or cakes, on forfeiture of 5s. a time. 1609: An order that the constables pump on Alice Allerton, so often as she comes into the streets to chide or abase herself. 1630: Richard Hallall prosecuted for saying the town was governed by fools, 3s. 4d. 1633: An order for banishing out of the town a woman called Pretty Peggy. 1696: Mr. Parr, for tussling with Esq. Cross, and Esq. Cross for tussling with him again.

Kemble, the tragedian, was born at Prescot.

Adjoining Prescot on the N.W. is *Knowsley*, the seat of the Right Hon. the Earl of Derby; placed in the middle of a magnificent park (the largest in Lancashire), entered by 11 lodges, and containing 2000 acres, with 300 fallow and as many red deer. It was enclosed by Sir Thomas de Lathom, by licence of Edward III., in 1348, and is mentioned by Leland as "Knollesley, a park having a pretty house of the Erles of Derby, within a mile of Prestod." The park is adorned with belts and plantations of fir timber, and a lake nearly 1 m. in length. This noble property, formerly belonging to the De Knowsleys, was acquired by the Lathoms through marriage with their heiress, and in the 15th centy. by the family

of Stanley, Sir John Stanley, Lord Deputy of Ireland, having married Isabella de Lathom, 1385. Since then the Stanleys, whose history is so largely identified with that of England, have made Knowsley their ancestral seat, though it did not become the settled residence of the family until after the siege of Lathom, in the time of the 7th Earl.

The first Baron Stanley was Sir Thomas Stanley (1455), whose second son, Sir William, was beheaded by Henry VII., on pretence of being concerned in the Perkin Warbeck conspiracy. Lord Stanley's eldest son, Thomas, became the 1st Earl of Derby, having been advanced to the earldom by his stepson, Henry VII., after the battle of Bosworth Field, in 1485. Upon his son, George Stanley, was conferred the title of the 9th Lord Strange, in right of his wife, Jane, daughter and heiress of John, 8th Lord Strange, of Knockin. He, however, died before his father, and his son succeeded to the earldom. The 3rd Earl succeeded in 1504, and lived at Lathom (Rte. 40), where he kept a household of extraordinary splendour. The 5th Earl, Ferdinand, was chiefly remarkable for his extraordinary illness and death, popularly supposed to result from witchcraft, but more shrewdly suspected to have arisen from poison administered by his master of horse. James, the 7th Earl, married Charlotte of Tremouille, and became the most famous of all the Stanley family in connection with the Royalist cause during the Civil War. He was beheaded at Bolton in 1652 (Rte. 32). In consequence of James, the 10th Earl, grandson of the former, dying without issue, the barony of Strange passed into the family of Athol. Edward, the 12th Earl, was a great patron of the turf, and founded that most celebrated of English races, "the Derby," in 1780. Of the 14th Earl of Derby, the late Premier of England, who died 1869

it is unnecessary to speak. Whether in history, politics, territorial influence, or social life, the family of Stanley has been so interwoven with Lancashire and its prosperity that it would be impossible to dissociate them. Knowsley Hall has been much altered and re-arranged by successive Earls of Derby, the first Earl having greatly enlarged the old house of the De Knowsleys, and built a portion of it with 2 round towers for the reception of his stepson, Henry VII. The greater part of the present building was erected by the 10th Earl in the time of George II. from designs by *Foster*, and consists of a red brick front, surmounted by a balustrade. The E. front contains the chapel and the S. a corridor, with the armorial bearings of the 10th Earl, and the following inscription, "James Earl of Derby, Lord of Man and the Isles, grandson of James Earl of Derby and of Charlotte, daughter of Claude Duke de la Tremouille, whose husband James was beheaded at Bolton, 15th Oct., 1652, for strenuously adhering to Charles II., who refused a Bill passed unanimously by both Houses of Parliament, for restoring to the family the estates lost by his loyalty to him in 1732."

The interior of the Hall contains some fine pictures, including *Belshazzar's Feast*, by *Rembrandt*; *Seneca in the Bath*, by *Rubens*; sea-pieces, by *Vandervelde*; and others by *S. Rosa*, *Teniers*, *Correggio*, *Vandyck*, *Claude Lorrains*, &c.

Knowsley Ch. is $1\frac{1}{2}$ m. from the Hall, and was built as a mausoleum for the family, who for ages previously had been buried at Ormskirk and Burscough. It is a pretty Gothic building, with transepts, and contains some good stone carving, and a stained-glass window.

From *Ruinhill* the line passes l. *Halshead Park*, formerly the seat of

the *Pemberton* and *Tarbock* families, now extinct. On rt. are *The Hazels* (Sir Thomas Birch, Bt.) and *Hurst House* (Miss Willis).

$2\frac{1}{2}$ m. *Huyton Stat.* The ch., on rt., has a venerable old tower, nave, aisles, and chancel, the latter separated from the body of the ch. by a fine oak screen, of the date of Henry VII. The chancel has a singular hammer-beam roof. There is also some good stained glass, and a *brass* to Mr. William Bell, ejected from Huyton vicarage in 1662, "a most Famous Preacher, whose Pithy and Sententious Sermons warmed the hearts of all Good Xtians." Of late years Huyton has become a favourite residence for Liverpool merchants.

$2\frac{5}{8}$ m. *Roby Stat.* On l. is *Roby Hall* (Sir Edwardes Moss, Bart.), and on rt. 3 m. is *Croxeth Park*, the seat of the Earl of Sefton, whose ancestors, the *Molyneuxes*, have enjoyed it ever since the reign of Henry VI. The park, which contains about 850 acres, is mentioned by *Leland* as "a parke of the Kinge's land by *Molynex's house*;" also in a document of Edward II.'s time as "parcus de *Crostath super le mosse de Levepole*." The house is of brick with stone dressings, approached by a broad terrace.

$2\frac{7}{8}$ m. *Broad Green Stat.* On l. 2 m. is *Childwall Hall* (R. Brocklebank, Esq.), a seat of the Marquis of Salisbury, who acquired it by marriage with the heiress of the *Gascoignes*. The Hall is a castellated building by *Nash*. The ch. contains some curious paintings on canvass, and some *brasses* of a knight in plate-armor, and a lady in Elizabethan costume. A document of the churchwardens records that, in 1635, William Bamber was prosecuted for "usually sleeping in the church in the tyme of divine service."

The lord of *Childwall* has a claim

"to certain small dues, amounting to a penny or twopence from each occupier of land, which was formerly paid to the Knights Hospitallers of St. John of Jerusalem, who had a house upon the hill by Great Woolton."—*Burke*.

At Childwall was born, in 1693, Jeremiah Markland, a celebrated scholar, and author of an edition of the 'Sylvæ' of Statius.

The line now enters the *Olive Mount Cutting*, "the first extensive stone cutting executed on any rly., and to this day one of the most formidable. It is nearly 2 m. long, and in some parts 80 ft. deep. It is a narrow ravine or defile cut out of the solid rock, and not less than 480,000 cubic yards of stone were removed from it. Mr. Vignolles, afterwards describing it, said it looked as if it had been dug out by giants."

At 30 m. *Edgehill Stat.* the line enters the tunnel, at the other end of which it runs in to the Lime Street Stat. of

31 m. *Liverpool (Rte. 39)*.

Stat., and is here adopted by the Midland and Great Northern Companies as a means of access for their trains to Liverpool, as well as for those of the London and North-Western Company. The line, which during its progress in Cheshire has kept the S. bank of the Mersey, crosses it at Warrington, and runs along the N. bank all the way to Liverpool. Passing under the London and North-Western main line to Scotland, the traveller skirts the banks of the Mersey and the *Sankey Canal*, which runs between Widness, Warrington, and St. Helen's. This undertaking was the earliest of the canal systems in England. The original intention was to deepen Sankey Brook, but it was ultimately made a separate water way, only connecting with the brook once or twice.

1 m. *Sankey Bridge Stat.*

3 m. *Fiddler's Ferry Stat.* At Penketh, a little to the rt., was born Thomas Penketh, the Augustinian friar of Warrington, said, by Fuller, to have had a prodigious memory. He is mentioned by Shakespeare in 'Richard III.'—

"Go, Lovel, with all speed to Doc'or Shaw.
Go thou to friar Penker;—bid them both
Meet me, within this hour, at Baynard's
castle."

Across the river, the wooded high grounds of Darcsbury, Norton, and Halton, afford an agreeable prospect; and a fine view is obtained of *Norton Priory*, the beautiful seat of Sir Richard Brooke, Bart. (Rte. 25.) Between the river and rly. on l. are vestiges of an entrenchment at *Cuerdley Marsh*. In the township of *Cuerdley* was born Dr. William Smith, Bishop of Lincoln, and founder of Brazenose College. He was also Lord President of Wales.

6 m. *WIDNESS JUNC.* with the St. Helen's line.

ROUTE 38.

FROM WARRINGTON TO LIVERPOOL
BY GARSTON.

This line is a continuation of the Manchester, Altrincham, and South Junction Rly. (Rte. 20), which passes through Warrington at the Arpley

On the l. is the manufacturing town of *Widness*, of such modern growth, that 20 years ago there was scarcely any population. Alkali works were, however, established here in 1847, by Mr. Hutchinson; and since that time the growth of the place has been extraordinarily rapid, having a population of between 10,000 and 11,000. It is probably the busiest alkali and grease district in the kingdom, next to Newcastle-upon-Tyne; producing about 32,000 tons of the several products of soda every year, in the process of which 200,000 tons of coal, 30,000 tons of salt, 40,000 tons of limestone, and 30,000 tons of pyrites are used. In addition to alkali and chemical works, there are large establishments for making soap, railway grease, resin, varnish, and bone manure; so that it may easily be imagined that Widness is not the nicest place in the world to live in, or even to visit, except from a strong love of scientific pursuits. An ingenious plan has been adopted by *Mr. Gossage*, a soap-maker here, for converting salt into silicate of soda. It is of immense importance to the glass manufacturers, who, by simply fusing the silicate of soda with different proportions of lime, sand, and colouring matter, can obtain glass of any hue and quality. The operation is conducted in a tower, 50 ft. high, lined with firebricks and filled with balls of flint or sand (silicates). These are heated by Siemens's regenerative furnaces placed at the bottom. To this heated silica, two other furnaces supply steam and salt in a state of vapour; then arises a simple decomposition, silicate of soda being formed and flowing away, leaving a fresh surface of flint to be operated upon by the steam and salt vapour. To accommodate the rising requirements of the town, docks have been made, having a water area of 12 acres, and 3348 yards of wharfrage. The visitor should in-

spect the new Runcorn Railway Bridge, known as "Tueller's Girder," which carries the London and North-Western Railway across the Mersey, from London to Liverpool (Rte. 17).

[A divergence may be made from Widness by rail to St. Helen's and Ormskirk, 21 m., passing 1 m. *Appleton Stat.*

Here is a large Roman Catholic establishment, with a fine chapel and schools.

2½ m. *Farnworth Stat.* The ch. contains several monuments to the family of Bold, whose seat of Bold Hall is in this parish (Rte. 37). There are traces of a moat at Cranshaw Hill, on l. of the line.

6½ m. *Sutton Oak Stat.* A handsome new church has been built here from designs by *Paley*.

St. Helen's Stat. (*Inns*: Raven, Wellington Arms.)

St. Helen's is the centre of the manufacturing energies of this district, and particularly of the glass trade, which has been established here since 1773. There are also large copper and alkali works.

Crown, sheet, and plate glass are made here of great purity and size, the latter being cast in plates of 160 inches long by 120 wide, and concave mirrors 36 in. in diameter.

The chief establishments are the British Plate Glass, the Eccleston Flint Glass, the St. Helen's Crown Glass, and Union Plate Glass companies. "In this district one-half the glass made in England is manufactured, one-fourth of the alkali, and one-fourth of the copper; the gross value of these articles manufactured in St. Helen's, and of the coal raised there, being more than 3 millions sterling annually, while the weekly wages paid are 20,000*l.* The manufactories of glass include 3 plate or cast glass, 1 crown and sheet or blown window-glass, 2 flint and 4 bottle-glass works.

The plate-glass works make three-fourths, the crown and sheet one-third, and the flint and bottles one-tenth, of all such glass made in England. The St. Helen's Rly., which only forms one-fortieth of the London and North-Western Company's mileage, conveys two million tons, or one-seventh of their entire traffic."—*Baines*. The town, though much improved of late years, contains but little of interest. The Town Hall is a pretty Italian building erected in 1839.

1 m. to the N. are the very scanty remains of *Windleshaw Abbey*, a place held in great veneration by the Roman Catholics, who have a burying ground here, and are brought hither for interment from long distances. Although dignified by the name of Abbey, it is probable that it was never anything more than a chapel, partly because history is silent as to its foundation, and partly because the ruins are and evidently were of such small extent. "The chapel was but small, not more than 12 yards in length, and about 3 in width, and the tower was scarcely 8 yards high. Its insignificance probably may account for the obscurity in which its origin is involved. It fell into disuse after the dissolution, and its final ruin took place during the civil wars."—*Roby*. A well near the ruins, called *St. Thomas's Well*, seems to indicate that the chapel was dedicated to that saint.

The line to Ormskirk continues in a north-westerly direction, passing

9½ m. *Gerard's Bridge Stat.*

10½ m. *Mossbank Stat.* On l. are *Windleshaw Abbey*, and *Windle Hall* (R. Pilkington, Esq.).

11½ m. *Crank Stat.* On rt. is rather high ground.

13 m. *Rookery Stat.*

13¾ m. *Rainford Stat.* The village is locally celebrated for its tobacco

pipes, there being no less than ten manufacturers of them.

15 m. *RAINFORD JUNCT.* with the Bolton, Wigan, and Liverpool line (Rte. 36).

17¾ m. *Blaguegate Stat.* The country in this neighbourhood is monotonous and uninteresting, and is principally given up to collieries. On rt., ¼ m., is *Skelmersdale*, overlooking the valley of the little river Tawd. It gives the title of Baron to the Bootle-Wilbraham family, whose monuments may be seen in the ch. On the high ground of Ashurst, about 2 m. N., is *Ashurst Hall*, a large mansion of the 17th centy., with a gateway. It is now a farmhouse. *Ashurst Beacon* was constantly watched during the French Revolution, and kept ready to be set alight at the first alarm. Passing rt. the woods of Lathom House, the tourist reaches *ORMSKIRK JUNC.* (Rte. 41.)]

From Widdess the rly. continues to skirt the banks of the Mersey, being joined at *DRYTON JUNCT.* by the direct line of the London and North-Western from Crewe to Liverpool.

Ditton Hall (Hon. Mrs. Stapleton).

9¼ m. *Hale Stat.* On l. is *Hale Hall*, a fine old mansion partly modernised, and the seat of J. Ireland Blackburne, Esq. The oldest portion, the north front, was built by Sir Gilbert Ireland in 1604. At the back of the grounds, nearer to Ditton, is a decoy for catching wild-fowl. The lord of the manor has a right to claim fourpence for every vessel that anchors off the north shore in this part of the river, which is here about 3 m. in breadth. In Hale churchyard is buried a celebrated giant named Childe, of Hale, who was 9 ft. 3 in. in height, and died in 1623. *Hale Wood* was held by the Irelands in the reign of Elizabeth

by the annual rendering of two roses on Midsummer Day.

11½ m. *Speke Stat.* On l. is *Speke Hall*, another beautiful old mansion (R. Watts, Esq.) It was built in 1598 by Edward Norreys, which family possessed the estate by marriage of the heiress of the Molyneux with William Norreys of Sutton. The heiress of the Norreys married in 1736 Lord Sydney Beauclerk, from whom it passed by purchase to the present possessors. In form it is a quadrangle, a portion of which is in the old timber-and-plaster style. The principal entrance was over a moat, and through the stone porch with the inscription in black letters—"This worke, 25 yds. long, was wolly built by Edw. N., Esq., anno 1598." The great hall is ornamented with a wainscot, said to have been brought from Holyrood by Sir Edward Norris, who fought under Lord Stanley at Flodden, and was honoured by a letter from Henry VII., complimenting him for his gallantry. It is divided into eight compartments, subdivided into panels, with carved heads. On one of them is written, "Slepe not till ye hathe consered howe thow hast spent ye Day past. If Thow have well don, thank God; if other ways, Repent ye." Over the door is, "The streyghtest God to love and serve
Waye to heaven ʒ Above all thyng."

13 m. *Allerton Stat.* On l. is *Gareton* and its salt-works, and on rt. the village of *Woolton*, one of the prettiest in the neighbourhood of Liverpool, and much in request for residential purposes.

Woolton Hall (J. R. Jeffery, Esq.), *Allerton Hall* (T. Molyneux, Esq.), *Allerton Tower* (Sir Hardman Earle, Bart.). The rly. now rapidly approaches the outskirts of *Liverpool*, and passing 14½ m. *Mossley Stat.*, reaches *Edgehill*, and through the tunnel to *Lime-street Stat.*

ROUTE 39.

LIVERPOOL TO SOUTHPORT.

Liverpool.—Hotels. Liverpool is fairly supplied with hotel accommodation in point of numbers, although, considering its size and importance, they are, generally speaking, not of that first-class character which might be expected. The principal are the *Washington Hotel*, a very large establishment much frequented by Americans; the *Adelphi*, and the *Waterloo*, both near the *Lime-street Stat.*; the *Angel*, *George*, *Alexandra*, *Saddle*, *Grapes*, *Royal*, all in *Dale-st.*, and more commercial; *Feathers*, in *Clayton-square*, &c. A very fine railway hotel is being built (1870) by the *London and North-Western Company*.

Railway Stations.—Liverpool is placed in direct communication with almost every town in the kingdom, and nearly all the great companies have access to it. The *London and North-Western stat.* is in *Lime-st.* for *Manchester*, *Leeds*, *London*, and *Scotland*. Into the same station run the *direct London (via Runcorn)* and the *Stockport and Warrington line*. This latter line is also used by the *Great Northern*, *Manchester, Sheffield*, and *Lincolnshire*, and the

Midland lines, which, however, enter Liverpool by a different station in Sefton-street. This is only temporary, a permanent station being about to be made in Church-street, in the heart of Liverpool. The *Great Western* commences at Birkenhead, but tickets are issued on board the railway boats at the Landing Stage.

The *Lancashire and Yorkshire* and the *East Lancashire* have their stat. in Tithebarn-street (the most direct route to Scotland). From its smaller size and its greater compactness, Liverpool does not present the same complexity of railway system as Manchester, and it must be remembered, too, that the Docks being the centre of attraction, it is the aim of each company to reach them in the most direct manner.

The *Post Office* forms part of the Revenue buildings at the bottom of Castle-street.

Liverpool, when compared with most of the great cities of England, or even of Lancashire, can be scarcely said to have a history; for, curious as it seems, it is not once mentioned in Domesday Book, and, even as late as 1635, it was not of sufficient importance to find a place in the Map of England. In the Chetham Library of Manchester, there is a copy of Selden's 'Mare Clausum, seu de Dominio Maris,' in which is a Map containing the names and positions of Preston, Wigan, Manchester, and Chester; while Liverpool is not mentioned. But that such a place did exist in a very humble manner, is proved by early documents. It was then a small fishing village, called by the various names of Lyrpol, Lith-erpol, Leverpol, Lierpol, and ultimately Liverpool. Its position on the Mersey, of course, gave the "pool," but the first part of the name is still a subject of discussion amongst antiquaries, some deriving

it from a bird called the Lever, as fabulous as the Phoenix; others from a Saxon word, signifying "gentle;" others again from the Lever family. The seal of the town is a bird, holding a sprig of green leaves. Of its very early history, Camden says, "The Mersey at last opens into a wide mouth, very commodious for trade, and then runs into the sea near Litterpoole, in Saxon Lireppole, call'd so ('tis thought) from the waters spread like a fenn there. Roger de Poitiers, who was Lord of the House of Lancaster, built a castle here; for all the land between the Ribell and the Mersey belonged to the said Roger, as appears by Domesday." Whether this is correct, it is certain that the proximity of Liverpool to the Irish coast soon attracted a certain amount of trade; and in 1173, a charter was given to it by Henry II., making it a free port. King John confirmed this charter, and built a fortress, or, what is more likely, repaired and enlarged the one which Roger de Poitiers had built before. But with all this encouragement, we find that Liverpool, in Edward I.'s reign, only contained 800 inhabitants; and "when the war broke out between France and England in 1347, when Edward III. summoned the various ports in the kingdom to make contributions towards the naval power, according to their means, London was required to provide 25 ships and 662 men; Bristol, 22 ships and 608 men; Hull, 16 ships and 466 men; whilst Liverpool was only asked to find 1 bark and 6 men. In Queen Elizabeth's time, the burgesses presented a petition to her Majesty, praying her to remit a subsidy which had been imposed upon it and other seaport towns, in which they style their native place, 'Her Majesty's poor decayed town of Leverpool.'" "In 1634-5, when Charles I. made his unconstitutional

levy of ship-money throughout England, Liverpool was let off with a contribution of 15*l.*; whilst Chester paid 100*l.*, and Bristol not less than 1000*l.*—*Smiles.*

On this last occasion, the High Sheriff of Lancashire wrote, "If you shall tax and assess men according to their estate, then Liverpool being poor, and now goes, as it were, a begging, must pay very little.

For all this, Liverpool, even in Henry VIII.'s time, showed that she possessed the germs of her coming fortune, for Leland expressly mentions the "small custom paid that causeth merchants to resort, and also the good merchandise at Lyrpöle, much Yrish yarne that Manchester men do buy there."

In the Civil Wars Liverpool held out for 24 days against Prince Rupert, who had expected an easy victory over its mud fortifications, which he had designated a "crow's nest;" at the end of this time, however, he gained the day, and according to Sir Edward More, "took Leeverpöle Whesontid 1644 putting all to y^e sword for many hours, giving noe quarter; where Carill y^e is now Lord Mullinex killed 7 or 8 pore men wth his owne hands; Good Lord deliver us from y^e cruelty of bludthirsty Papest." From this period the town may be said to have taken a decided start in life. The following is a description of it in 1678:—"Lerpoole or Leverpoole, commodiously seated on the goodly river Mersey, where it affords a bold and safe harbour for ships, which at low water may ride at 4 fathoms, and at high at 10; which said river is navigable for many miles into the country, and affords abundance of all sorts of fowl and fish, especially great quantities of lampreys and smelts of the largest size, so plentifully taken, that they are commonly sold at 20 a penny. . . . Its church

(though large and good, wherein were 4 chantries of ancient and honourable foundation), is not enough to hold its inhabitants, which are many, amongst which are divers eminent merchants and tradesmen, whose trade and traffic, especially into the West Indies, make it so famous; its situation affording in great plenty and at reasonabler rates than most parts of England, such exported commodities proper for the West Indies, as likewise a similar return for such imported commodities, by reason of the sugar-bakers and great manufacturers of cotton in the adjacent parts."—*Blome.* The ch. here mentioned was supplemented by another, in 1699, when Liverpool was made a separate parish. The Dee having very considerably silted up, Chester gradually declined and Liverpool rose upon its ruins with wonderful rapidity—the first dock having been made and opened in 1700, soon after which the ships had increased to 84, and the number of sailors manning them to 900; while 350 vessels annually entered the port.

For a considerable time this dock and a graving dock were sufficient for the Liverpool trade, which principally consisted of the very questionable traffic to the West Indies of African slaves, in which the Liverpool merchants were largely engaged; but it was found necessary to make a second in 1738, on account of the increasing trade. The opening up of the inland navigation of the Irwell and the Weaver, and the formation of the Duke of Bridgewater's Canal, so vastly increased the business, that a third, called the Duke's Dock, was added, and was soon followed by others, until, at the present time, there is an uninterrupted line of 5 miles devoted to docks, which, with the Birkenhead docks on the opposite shore (Rte. 25), complete the largest and

most gigantic commercial undertakings of the age.

The plan of the town may be described as a semicircle, the base of which is formed by the Mersey, in itself the most restless and busiest of Liverpool's highways. From the river branch away, principally to the N., the various blocks of streets—some of them tolerably broad and handsome, some mere rows of offices and warehouses, and others, unfortunately, reeking with dirt, misery, and crime. But, except in the outer circle, where the residential population of the upper classes congregate, there is not a single main artery running for any distance in one direction, and still less unanimity in the relative direction of the smaller streets to the large ones. Commencing at the landing-stage, which is nearly the centre of the bow-line, are Water-street and Chapel-street, both running eastwards; the former leads to the heart of the town at the Exchange, and continues pretty straight under the name of Dale-street, which finds its termination ere long at St. George's Hall. Chapel-street runs into Tithebarn-street, which splits up into the Vauxhall-road, and turns away to the N. From the Exchange, Castle-street runs due S.E. to the Custom House, sending off to the l. Lord-street, one of the principal thoroughfares of the town. Bold-street, which diverges to the rt., contains the best shops, and is therefore the chief resort of Liverpool ladies.

To the l. is the open space in which St. George's Hall is situated, containing a large number of hotels, taverns, and the usual accompaniments to a large railway stat. (Lime-street). The high ground to the E. and S.E. has been taken advantage of to build handsome streets for residential purposes, such as Rodney-street, Huskisson-street, &c.

These gradually merge into the more pretentious suburban districts, which in their turn give place to the open country.

To the S. is the pretty district of Toxteth Park, which contains many of the finest houses near Liverpool. To the E. is Edgehill, a populous and poor district, which is succeeded by Wavertree and Knotty Ash. To the N.E. are Everton, Kirkdale, and Walton, the commencement of a long line of marine villages extending through Bootle to Seaforth.

As a rule Liverpool merchants reside out of town at a greater distance from their businesses than those of Manchester. This is partly attributable to the unequalled searange which they possess, the limits of which are simply bounded by the means of access. From Liverpool to Crosby in one direction, the coast is lined with but few intervals with villages and marine residences; while in the other the tide of population goes off to the river-side villages of Aigburth, Garston, Woolton, Hale, &c. Thousands take up their abode on the Cheshire coast, from Eastham to Tranmere, Egremont, and New Brighton; while the Hoylake Rly. carries off others to seek the sea breezes of the St. George's Channel.

The Mersey, which, except the Thames, is the most thronged of any river in the world, is a peculiar feature in Liverpool scenery and Liverpool life. At its narrowest point, between the landing-stage and Birkenhead, it is $\frac{1}{2}$ m. in breadth, although on either side it widens considerably; to the l. forming what is called the Sloyne, where a ship of war is generally anchored, together with the training frigate. Further up it possesses a width of 3 or 4 miles, the greatest that it attains between Liverpool and Runcorn. To the rt. it widens again, assuming between New Brighton and Bootle all the characters of the sea—

"Whence, where the rivers meet, with all
their stately trim,
Proud Mersey is so great in entering of
the Maine,
As hee would make a showe for Empry
to stand
And wrest the 3-forked mace from out
grym Neptune's hand."—*Drayton.*

Between the hours of 6 o'clock in the morning and midnight, a perpetual stream of passengers is crossing the river, from the various villages on the Cheshire coast, all of whom converge to the *Landing-stage*, and contribute to make it the liveliest spot in Liverpool. Steamers start hence to Woodside every 10 minutes, to Monk's Ferry by railway boats, according to the trains; to Seacombe, every quarter of an hour; to Egremont, every half-hour; to New Brighton, every half-hour; to Tranmere, every quarter of an hour; to Rock Ferry, every half-hour; to Eastham, every hour. The busiest periods of the day are naturally about 10 A.M. and 4 P.M., when the flowing and ebbing tides of business men fill the boats to repletion. So great, indeed, is the traffic, that it is in contemplation to make a subway underneath the bed of the river; for, rapid as the boats are, there are certain little delays which the impatience of merchants would fain abridge; and in rough weather the passage across, short as it is, is wet and uncomfortable. Indeed, in gales, the transit is stopped altogether; for the Mersey is soon lashed up into a sea which makes it extremely dangerous for small craft. A subway would obviate these mischances, and perhaps be more feasible than the other proposition of a very long and lofty high-level bridge.

The *Landing Stages* are worth examination. The one for the ferry steamers, or the *St. George's Stage*, is 500 ft. long, and built from designs by *Sir William Cubitt* on floating

pontoons, so that it may rise and fall with the tide. A little to the N. of it is the *Prince's Landing Stage* for sea-going steamers, differing from the other only in its dimensions, being 1000 ft. long and 80 ft. wide. On it are refreshment, waiting, and reading rooms, with all the various offices for the underwriters and steam-ship companies. From this stage start the larger passenger steamers and vessels to Scotland, Ireland, London, and the Isle of Man, and the visitor to Liverpool should not fail to pass a morning here watching the never ceasing activity and bustle that prevail, as may well be imagined when the average number of persons embarking and disembarking is about 24,000. No port in the world is so connected with foreign steam navigation as the port of Liverpool, and it is sufficient to mention the world-wide names of transit lines as the Cunard, the McIvor, the Inman, the Black Ball, the Montreal, the Royal Mail, and the White Star, in connection with America, Canada, and Australia, in addition to the various companies that ply to France, the Mediterranean, the Black Sea, &c.

But these, gigantic as they are in their appliances and the results that they produce, are after all mere scratches on the surface of Liverpool commerce, to gain even a faint conception of which, the visitor should devote himself to an inspection of the *Docks*. As they extend in a tolerably straight line for nearly 5 miles, it is an arduous and fatiguing examination, but it is one that will well repay, for, in addition to the numerical quantities of ships and merchandise, each dock presents its own peculiar characteristics in the shape of vessels frequenting them, sailors, cargo, and labourers.

The best plan is to commence at the *St. George's Pier*, and take them E. and W. The first to the E. is

George's Dock, one of the oldest in Liverpool, constructed in 1767. It has a water area of between 5 and 6 acres, a quayside of 1000 yards, and is used for general trade. This communicates on rt. with *George's Tidal Basin*, having an area of 3 acres, and a quayside of 455 yards, and on the l. with the *Canning Dock*, appropriated to the coasting trade, and having a water area of 4 acres, and a quayside of 585 yards. This formerly led into the old Dock, which was filled up, and is now the site of the Custom House. The *Canning Basin* is 2½ acres in extent, and is a feeder to the Albert, Canning, Salthouse, and Graving docks. Between it and *George's Dock* is the *Manchester Dock* of nearly 2 acres, and a quayside of 684 yards. This is used for the carrying trade. The *Albert Dock* is nearly 8 acres in extent, and is devoted to the import trade from the East Indies, China, and South America. In connection with it is the *Salthouse Dock*, the Act for which was obtained in 1734. It has an area of 6½ acres, and, like the last, is used for Indian and South American vessels. To this succeeds *Wapping Basin*, a small export dock of 1¼ acre. *Wapping Dock* is 5 acres in extent, and is used for mixed shipping, both export and import. In front of it is the *King's Dock*, of 8 acres, which, from the circumstance of the tobacco warehouse being on its western side, is frequented by vessels from Havana and Virginia. The *Queen's Half-Tide Dock* of 4 acres leads into the *Queen's Dock*, a very large area of 10 acres, used by vessels in the Baltic, Russian, and New Brunswick trades. The *Trafalgar Dock* and Basin, of small extent, intervene between the latter and the *Coburg Dock*, of 8 acres, and a quayside of 1053 yards, in which the Spanish ships and the Australian lines, such as the *Black Ball*, load and unload. The *Brunswick Dock* of 12¼ acres,

and the *Half-Tide Dock* of 2 acres, are the great resort of the timber trade, and filled with ships from Honduras, Newfoundland, &c.

The *Toxteth Dock* is but little more than an acre, and is used for general trade. The *Harrington Docks Tidal Basin* has an area of nearly 2 acres, and with the *Egerton Dock* is devoted to inland trade. The last of all on this side are the Southern, or *Herculaneum Docks*, which contain 8½ acres, and have large graving docks attached to them.

To the N. of the Landing Stage, the first dock after the *George's Basin* is the *Prince's Dock*, which has a water area of 10 acres, and a quayside of 1000 yards. This is not appropriated to any special class of trade, but is used for general purposes. The *Prince's Half-Tide Dock* is 6 acres in extent. It is succeeded by the *Waterloo Docks* of 3 acres, intended for the American trade. Next comes the *Victoria Dock* of 6 acres, from whence a great part of the emigration traffic goes on, and the *Trafalgar Dock* of 6 acres, principally devoted to the steam coasting-trade. The *Clarence Dock* of 6 acres, with the *Half-Tide Dock* of 4 more, is used by steamers carrying on the trade between Liverpool and Ireland. The *Salisbury Dock* of 3½ acres is conspicuous, from the tower on its pier, with an illuminated clock and ball for the regulating of chronometers by Greenwich time. At the back of it is the *Collingwood Dock* of 5 acres, used for the coasting-trade, and at the back of that again is the *Stanley Dock* of 7 acres.

The *Nelson Dock*, of 7½ acres, is appropriated chiefly to Holland and Mediterranean steamers, and the *Bramley Moore Dock*, next to it (9½ acres), to those of the United States.

In the *Wellington Dock* (7½ acres) are found steamers to British North America, and attached to it is a half-tide basin of 3 acres. The *Sandon*

Dock is 10 acres, and is principally devoted to vessels under repair, for which graving docks, cranes, and all the rest of the paraphernalia are extensively provided.

The *Huskisson Dock* is 14 acres in extent, and the *Branch Dock* 7. It is used partly for the timber trade and partly for British American steamers. But the great resort of timber vessels is the *Canada Dock*, the largest in Liverpool, of nearly 18 acres. It is entered by a lock 500 yards long, reputed to be the largest in the world. Attached to it is the *Canada Half-Tide Dock* of 3 acres. Two small docks, called the *North and South Carriers Docks*, complete the list. "The total area of the Liverpool Dock Estate is 1015 acres, appropriated as follows :—

| | Acres. |
|--|--------|
| Water space in tidal basins, wet and dry | 277 |
| Docks | 733 |
| Land, quays, yards, warehouses. | — |
| | 1015 |

The total quaysage of the wet docks and tidal basins is nearly 19 miles, and the river wall from the extreme north boundary of the estate (near Rimrose Brook) to the extreme south, near the Dingle, exceeds 6 miles in length."—*Kelly*.

To this dock acreage will have to be added 497 acres on the Birkenhead side, making a total belonging to the Liverpool corporation of 1512 acres, by far the largest of any port in the world. During the year 1869, 45,135 vessels, of 9,492,086 tons, passed in and out of the port of Liverpool.

The value of exports and imports have increased in a corresponding ratio, being 35,000,000*l.* in 1833, and 87,000,000*l.* in 1866. In 1845 the duties were taken off cotton, wool, and other raw materials. The principal imports which have given Liverpool such a world-wide reputation are those of cotton, provisions, tobacco, and timber. Of cotton imported in 1868 there were 3,326,543 bales.

Before the American War, 8 parts out of 9 of all the raw cotton sent from the United States to Great Britain entered the port, which still holds the position of principal receiver for the cotton districts, although the sources of supply are considerably modified, and embrace India, Egypt, &c., together with America. The railway system is quite as complete in Liverpool as it is in Manchester, although, from the formation of the town, it is not so conspicuous to ordinary passers-by. But nearly every dock, and particularly those of the northern section, which contain the largest ships, are in direct communication with the railway waggons, which, by means of magnificent machinery, are loaded with surprising quickness, and taken as quickly to the warehouse of the merchant at Manchester. The provision trade is another great feature in the Liverpool commerce, Canada and North America sending over vast quantities of beef and pork; while Ireland contributes her bacon, butter, lard, eggs, and livestock to this larder of the world. Nor must we forget, amongst the multitudinous exports that leave Liverpool for every part of the world, the cargoes of emigrants to Australia, Canada, North and South America, taken out weekly by the splendid fleet of liners such as the *Inman* and *Black Ball* vessels. During the autumn quarter of 1869, the emigration from the Mersey under the Act was 47,942 persons, of which number 38,957 went to the United States, and 7443 to Canada. The constant increase that has been made in the extent of the docks and the attendant requirements of wharfs, warehouses, and streets leading to them, has caused a corresponding increase in population and the value of land. In 1700 the number of inhabitants was 5714, which had increased, by 1756, to 18,500; in 1800, to 77,000; in 1821,

to 119,000; in 1861, to 437,000; in 1867, to 492,000; and in 1868 to 500,676. At present it is considerably over half a million. "At the Parliamentary survey in 1851, the increase of the houses in the circuit of the townships adjoining the town was estimated at 700 per annum; while the price of building ground was excessively high both in the town and suburbs. As much as 10 guineas a square yard has been given in the middle of the town, and the price in the outskirts ranges from 1000*l.* to 3000*l.* per acre. Even at a distance of 4 miles, as much as 500*l.* per statute acre has been given, and is not an unfrequent price; while in the neighbourhood of the Exchange land has been sold at more than 50 guineas a square yard." This is a great contrast to the time when a house in Castle-street let for 4*s.* a year, and 10*l.* was considered a good purchase price for two houses in the same situation. The last 20 years have been active ones in the improvement of Liverpool. Noble buildings have arisen, streets have been widened, and sanitary arrangements carried out; but with all these, it remains a fact that Liverpool has still a death-rate of alarmingly high proportions, and a corresponding proportion of crime. Those who know the terribly crowded state of the lowest classes here will not wonder, for it possesses a large population in peculiarly wretched circumstances, both moral and physical. As a great seaport, it is particularly liable to a perpetual influx of all sorts and conditions of maritime strangers, while its proximity to the coast of Ireland has caused its alleys and slums to be filled with the very lowest class of Irish immigrants.

The tourist, while pursuing his examination of the docks, should visit at the same time those buildings which are associated with them.

First and foremost is the *Custom House*, or more properly the Revenue Buildings, which comprise the Custom House, General Post Office, Inland Revenue and Dock Offices. When the Salthouse Dock was formed, the old dock was filled up, and this fine building erected on its site, which was valued at 90,000*l.* It was built by the Corporation, but was bought by the Government for 150,000*l.* It is a noble pile, 430 ft. long, with a lofty Ionic portico facing the river, and a dome rising from the centre supported by 8 large pillars. The windows of this dome light the Long Room of the Custom House, 146 ft. long, by 70 ft. wide. Although the space in which the Revenue Buildings stand is tolerably open, the situation is low and the fine proportions are lost; and Mr. Kohl, in his account of Liverpool, considers that it is "one of the most magnificent pieces of architecture that our age has produced, and deserves to rank even with St. Paul's and with other works of the first order."

In the open space on the N. stands a statue of the late Mr. Huskisson, by *Gibson*; close by, in Canning-place, is the *Sailors' Home* for the use of sailors when in port, and for registering those connected with the mercantile marine. It is a handsome Elizabethan building, the foundation stone of which was laid by the Prince Consort in 1846, and, amongst the internal arrangements, it is worth mention, is a Savings' Bank, in which the deposits amount to 14,000*l.* The annual number of inmates varies between 6000 and 7000, a vast boon to a class which suffers more than any other from villany and extortion of all kinds.

From the Docks and the Landing-stage, the principal entry into the town is by Water-street, which in Edward III.'s reign contained the ancient chapel of St. Nicholas and

a tower "erected by Sir Thomas de Lathom, through whose heiress it was conveyed to the Stanleys, and was long held by them to the grievous offence and annoyance of their powerful rivals, and often bitter enemies, the Molineux of the Castle. In the deadly strife of these families for pre-eminence, the burghesses prospered or suffered with their respective patrons, although their chief family, the Mores, contrived to get something considerable from both sides."—*Halley*. Water-street is now covered with offices, the architecture of some of which is no mean contribution to Liverpool beauty. The finest blocks are those built by the late Sir William Brown and by Messrs. Bailey.

At the head of Water-street and Castle-street is the *Town Hall*, built (or rather rebuilt after a fire in 1795) from designs by *Wood*, of Bath. It is of classical architecture, with a fine sculpture in the front, representing Commerce offering her treasures to Neptune. From the centre rises a dome supported by Corinthian columns. The interior is well worth a visit, especially the grand staircase, in which is a statue of Canning, by *Chantrey*, and the saloon, which contains portraits of George III. by *Lawrence*, George IV. when Prince of Wales, William IV. when Duke of Clarence, by *Shee*. At the northern face of the Town Hall is the *Exchange*, an open flagged space surrounded by a handsome range of buildings, containing the Exchange News-room, &c. But these being found quite inadequate to accommodate the merchants, great alterations have been made by *Wyatt*, by which the whole of the Exchange has been enlarged. The News Room contains an area of 1400 yards.

In the centre stands the monument to Nelson, from designs by *Wyatt*, the figures having been modelled and cast in bronze by *West-*

macott. It was finished in 1813, at a cost of 9000*l*.

The *Public Offices* are now concentrated in a very handsome series of new buildings in Dale-street.

By far the finest edifice in Liverpool, indeed in the whole provinces, is *St. George's Hall*, placed in the large open space near the Lime-street rly. stat. This noble building, which contains the Liverpool assize courts, was finished in 1854 at a total cost of 400,000*l*. The designs were by the late *Mr. Lonsdale Elmes*, the general style of the building being Corinthian. The principal façade is opposite to the London and North-Western rly. stat. in Lime-street, and is more than 400 ft. in length, its salient feature being the advanced colonnade supported by 15 noble columns of 50 ft. in height, allowing a spacious covered terrace-walk underneath it, and defining externally the position of the Great Hall within. At the S. is a portico with 12 columns, 4½ ft. in diameter, and 45 ft. in height. The tympanum above is occupied by a group of figures in Caen stone, by *Cockerell*, representing Britannia receiving the four quarters of the world. The entrances are marked by polished granite gate-piers bearing Tritons, and by massive pedestals with recumbent lions sculptured by *Nichol*. The internal arrangement consists of the S. Entrance Hall, which is decorated with beautiful columns of polished granite; the Great Hall, the dimensions of which, 169 ft. by 74 ft., make it one of the largest rooms in the kingdom. The height of the roof is 84 ft., the whole of it being beautifully panelled and decorated. Support is given by columns of porphyry, the niches between which will be all filled with statues; those of Sir Robert Peel and George Stephenson are already placed. The great attraction of this magnificent

room is the organ, built by *Willis*, and one of the finest, though not the biggest, in the kingdom. The Corporation provide that a weekly performance should take place every Saturday at 3, and every Thursday evening at 8; and the visitor should on no account omit the opportunity of hearing Mr. Best, the organist.

It is worth mention that the ventilating and heating arrangements are on such an extensive scale throughout the building, that there are seven miles of pipes. 2000 persons may be comfortably seated in the Great Hall, while at the northern end is another concert hall, which will hold 1000 more. The remainder of the premises is devoted to the assize courts, which consist of the Crown and Nisi Prius Courts, both handsome apartments and well arranged for their respective purposes. Two monuments deserve attention: one, on the S. side, a statue of the late Prince Consort, by *Thornycroft*, erected in 1866; and a Doric column at the N. end by *Lawson*, surmounted by a bronze figure of the Duke of Wellington, cast from Waterloo trophies.

The *Royal Institution*, in Colquhoun-street, was opened in 1817 by Wm. Roscoe, once M.P. for Liverpool, and author of the 'Life of Lorenzo de Medici.' Its Museum is worth inspection, and particularly by those who take an interest in ornithology, the collection of birds being upwards of 4000. The *Permanent Gallery of Art* which is attached to it contains a good selection of costly pictures of the old masters, and a statue of Roscoe, by *Chantry*. The *Liverpool Institution* is an extensive Ionic building in Mount-street, founded originally by Mr. Huskisson in 1825, though the present establishment only dates from 1838, the previous one having been destroyed by fire. It is particularly complete in the way of school education, and com-

prises a high, a commercial, a girls', an evening school, and a school of art. Whatever may be the fate of most institutes, there is no doubt that this one has been a great and uniform success since its foundation, and one of its latest incorporations has been that of the *Queen's College*, from whence students may proceed for examination for degrees at the University of London. The *Liverpool College*, in Shaw-street, is another of the educational establishments which are so abundant here. It is a handsome Tudor building by the late Mr. *Lonsdale Elmes*, the front of which contains statues of Lord Stanley and Lord Francis Egerton. In the interior are a large lecture hall, museum, and library.

The *Brown Free Library*, near St. George's Hall, was originally founded on a bequest by the late Lord Derby of a collection of birds, which the late Sir William Brown nobly supplemented in 1857 by providing a fine building for the reception not only of this museum, but of a large free library. The interior contains a good likeness of the donor, and also a marble statue. In the Museum are many interesting objects, and particularly a collection given by Mr. Mayer, a goldsmith in Lord-street, of objects of mediæval art, in various metals, from all countries. It is one of the most valuable collections of the kind in the country, and is valued at 60,000*l.* The "Jackson" collection of coins, and a large model of Liverpool, are also noticeable features.

There is no cathedral in Liverpool, nor, indeed, many churches worth a special visit; in fact, they are nearly every one of very modern character and city architecture. The parish ch. is that of *St. Peter's*, which has a tower 108 ft. high, and an altarpiece of carved oak; but the oldest is *St. Nicholas*, near the

bottom of Water-street, which is the representative of the old chapel of St. Nicholas, and was secured as a chapel of ease to Walton in the 14th cent. A statue of St. Nicholas, the patron saint of seamen, formerly stood by the chapel, but it has long since disappeared. A document is in existence respecting St. Nicholas', dated 1685, declaring "That no person under the degree of an alderman shall sit in the aldermen's seats, without licence from Mr. Mayor and the chapel wardens; that none under the degree of an alderman's wife shall sit in the seat next unto the aldermen without licence; that none but housekeepers shall sit in the seat on the N. side, 'twixt the pulpit and the N. door, who are to be seated according to their quality and age; and that all apprentices and servants shall sit or stand in the alleys according to ancient custom." The style of the parish ch. presents all kinds of additions, the latest being the fine Gothic lantern tower, in lieu of the old one that fell in 1810, killing 23 charity children. The interior contains some very good memorial windows. *St. Luke's*, in Berry-street, is a fine ch. of Perp. architecture, erected at a cost of 60,000*l.* from designs by *Foster*. *St. George's*, built on the site of the old castle, in Castle-street, contains a good stained-glass E. window—subject the Crucifixion, after *Hilton*. *St. Paul's* was built in humble imitation of its great namesake. The ch. which is attached to the *School for the Blind*, is a copy of the portico of the Temple of Jupiter Panhellenius, at *Ægina*. In the interior is a monument, by *Gibson*, to Mr. Pudsey Dawson, a great benefactor to the institution; also a painting, by *Hilton*, of Christ restoring sight to the Blind, and one by *Haydon*, of Christ blessing little children. An enormous number of new churches have been built in Liverpool within the last few years.

There are now altogether 54, besides 19 belonging to the Roman Catholics. In addition to these, Liverpool contains a large number of charitable establishments, such as the *Royal Infirmary*, in Brownlow-street, a fine building of Ionic style by *Foster*; the *School for the Deaf and Dumb*, the *Bluecoat Hospital*, founded in 1709 for the education of 350 boys and girls, &c.

With amusements the town is well provided, and particularly in the way of theatres and music-halls, though the latter, as is usually the case in seaport towns, are of a rather low character. There is, however, nothing special in any of the buildings to notice, Manchester far exceeding Liverpool in this respect. The *Theatre Royal*, in Williamson-square, the *Royal Amphitheatre*, the *Prince of Wales*, and the *Colosseum*, are the principal theatrical houses, while music disports itself at the *Philharmonic Hall* in Hope-street, and the *Concert Hall* in Lord Nelson-street. The *Gymnasium*, in Myrtle-street, should be visited by those who approve of "muscular Christianity."

In the matter of Parks and public recreation grounds, Liverpool is undergoing a kind of transition, being badly off in the immediate vicinity of the town, though the pretty neighbourhood around and on the opposite coast goes far to compensate the people for the want of gardens. Many of the districts described as Parks, such as *Prince's* and *Toxteth Parks*, are simply residential, and covered over with villas and private grounds. In the 14th cent. *Toxteth* was a forest, containing the houses of one *Stanley*, who was the parker, and of one *Scarisbrick*, who was the forester, with some cottages for their servants, and stabling for their horses and dogs. In the neighbourhood of the *Prince's Park*, the new *Sefton Park*

is being laid out by the Corporation.

The *Cemetery* is very picturesquely situated, and prettily planted, and contains an Oratory, built upon a rock of New Red sandstone. Near it is a tower called the *Mount*, an artificial embankment with a garden and shrubbery attached. From it there is a charming view of the river, the coast of Cheshire, and the Welsh hills. To the N. of the town are the *Botanic Gardens*, open to the public, and *Wavertree Park*; the ground which the Zoological Gardens occupied is now built over. At *Wavertree* is a *Well* supposed to have belonged to the priory at Childwall. It has on it an inscription—"Qui non dat quod habet dæmon infra ridet, 1814," vulgarly translated:—

"He that hath and won't bestow,
The Devil will laugh at him below."

At *West Derby* is a fine ch. of Dec. style, with a square tower, 160 feet high, erected from designs by G. G. Scott, at a cost of 17,000*l.* The suburb of *Everton*, famous for its "coffee," was the head-quarters of Prince Rupert during the siege of Liverpool.

Amongst the celebrities, *natives* of Liverpool, may be mentioned *Jeremiah Horrox*, an astronomer, born at Toxteth, in 1619, the first to discover the transit of Venus; *Mrs. Hemans*, the poetess, who died at Wavertree, in 1835; *George Stubbs*, a noted animal painter, in the 18th centy.; *William Roscoe*, author of 'The Life of Lorenzo di Medici,' and of 'Leo the Tenth,' formerly M.P. for Liverpool, and a great opponent of the slave trade (died 1831); *William Rathbone*, the Quaker, also the leader of the anti-slavery party (died 1868); *Matthew Gregson*, the antiquary, and author of 'Fragments' (died 1824); *Sir William*

Brown, a wealthy merchant, and founder of the Brown Free Library (died 1864); *Lord Wensleydale* (died 1868). Associated with Liverpool, though not natives, were *Dr. Raffles*, a celebrated Nonconformist minister; and *Gibson*, the sculptor.

Conveyances from Liverpool. By *London and North-Western Rly.* (Lime-street) to Huyton, 6 m.; Newton, 16 m.; Manchester, 31½ m.; Crewe, 44 m.; Runcorn, 18 m.; Stafford, 63 m.; London, 204 m. By *Manchester, Sheffield, and Lincolnshire Rly.* (James-street), Garston, 6 m.; Hale, 10 m.; Warrington, 18 m.; Altrincham, 27 m.; Stockport, 38 m.; Hull, 180 m. By *Lancashire and Yorkshire Rly.* (Tithebarn-street), Ormskirk, 12 m.; Southport, 19 m.; Formby, 11 m.; Preston, 29 m.; Wigan, 19 m.; Bolton, 29 m.; Bury, 35 m.; Rochdale, 42 m.

Steamers throughout the day to New Brighton, Monk's Ferry, Tranmere, Seacombe, Egremont, and Eastham.

Omnibuses to Aigburth, Garston, Bootle, Crosby, Kirkdale, Walton, Everton, Old Swan, Knotty Ash, Woolton, West Derby.

The rly. (Lancashire and Yorkshire) by which the traveller performs the journey to Southport skirts the coast the whole distance, running for half the way through a continuous series of marine villages, the favourite residences of Liverpool merchants.

Passing the town stations of *Sandhills* and *Miller's Bridge*, convenient for the Canada and other docks, the train reaches 3 m. *Bootle Stat.* St. John's is a fine modern cruciform ch. of New Red sandstone, the geological formation in which Liverpool is situated. Bootle still supplies Liverpool with a considerable quantity of water, although the main stores are drawn from the

reservoirs at Rivington (Rte. 35). The natural level of the water at Bootle Spring is as high as the top of the steps of St. Paul's Ch., Liverpool. From the Sandstone wells 40 million gallons of water weekly are brought to the town, and 80 million gallons from Rivington. This large quantity, however, is considered insufficient, and fresh supplies are under consideration.

3½ m. *Marsh-lane Stat.*

4 m. *Seaforth Stat.* The Hall (J. Muspratt, Esq.). The manor of *Litherland*, a village adjoining, seems to point to a connexion with that of Liverpool.

5½ m. *Waterloo Stat.* The modern village of Waterloo is becoming very large, and much frequented for its bathing.

6½ m. *Crosby Stat.* (*Hotel*: Blundell Arms). In the village of *Great Crosby* is a grammar-school, founded in 1618 by James Harrison, a Merchant Taylor of London, and a native of this place. A beautiful Roman Catholic ch. in *Little Crosby* reminds the tourist that he is in the vicinity of some of the oldest Roman Catholic estates in Lancashire, viz., *Crosby Hall*, the seat of Nicholas Blundell, Esq.; and *Ince Blundell*, of T. Weld Blundell, Esq., whose ancestors have held it from the time of the Conqueror. The late Mr. Henry Blundell was well known in the artistic world for his fine collection of antiques which he made in Italy, Greece, and Egypt, and for the reception of which he built a museum after the model of the Pantheon. In addition to the statuary, which includes a Theseus taken from Adrian's villa, there are some valuable paintings—a Holy Family by *An. del Sarto*, others by *Canaletto*, and some splendid tapestry, worked with subjects from *Teniers*.

9¼ m. *Hightown Stat.* The train

then crosses the river *Alt*, near the *Formby Lighthouse*, the light of which is visible for 16 miles, to

11 m. *Formby Stat.* The country here is certainly not remarkable for picturesqueness, it being exceedingly flat, and intersected on the land-side by many cuts and drains. On the coast it is a series of desolate sand-hills and rabbit-warrens, of an aspect as dreary as can well be imagined: though the incursions of sand have been considerably mitigated by the planting of *Arundo arundinaria*, or bent grass. The first potatoes ever sown in England are said to have been planted in *Formby*, introduced there by a *Formby* man, who sailed in Sir W. Raleigh's expedition.

Formby Hall (rt.) is the seat of the Rev. Lonsdale *Formby*.

2 m. to rt. is *Altcar*, famous for its coursing meeting, known as the *Waterloo meeting*.

15 m. *Ainsdale Stat.*

17 m. *Birkdale Stat.*

19 m. *Southport* (*Hotels*: *Palace*, first class; *Victoria*, very good; *Royal*; *Scarisbrick Arms*), although not many years ago a small village, has now become with *Birkdale*, a populous and flourishing town, owing to the favour with which it is regarded, principally by Lancashire people, as a watering-place. It is not that the neighbourhood has any beauty about it, but the contrary. Nor is the bathing particularly good, as the sea goes out for an enormous distance; but the air is beautifully mild, so as to have obtained for *Southport* the name of the English *Montpellier*. "In 1809 there were only 38 houses, and 100 inhabitants, while at the present time there are upwards of 17,000 residents and 3000 houses, of which about 600 are lodging-houses." It contains the usual *agréments* of an English bathing-place, and some fine modern

buildings, including a pier 1465 yds. in length, erected at a cost of 20,000*l.*, a Town Hall, and a Convalescent Hospital. But uninviting as are the sand-hills to the casual visitor, they are interesting to the naturalist, as they contain over 700 species of native plants, including *Pyrola*, *Parnassia*, *Chlora*, *Erythraea*, &c. There are also many varieties of shells, besides rare lizards and butterflies. The encroachments of the sands have given rise to several traditions of lands covered up by them, of which Mr. Roby has taken advantage in his story of 'The Lost Farm.'

The district at the back of Southport was formerly a wide marsh, known as *Marion Mere*, which was partially, though unsuccessfully, drained by Mr. Fleetwood, of North Meols, in 1750. But his works having proved unavailing, they were recommenced by Mr. Eccleston Scarisbrick, who called to his aid the Duke of Bridgewater's engineer, Mr. Gilbert, of Worsley, and in the course of some thirty years after Mr. Fleetwood's death, produced satisfactory results. The land, however, has always been liable to disastrous inundations; and it was not until 1850, that Sir Thomas Hesketh ultimately cleared the land of water and made it flood-proof. Since then it has been most productive.

It is about 7 m. across the estuary of the Ribble to *Lytham*, of which good views are generally obtained.

At *North Meols*, 2 m. to the N., is the old hall of the Heskeths, now a farmhouse. The ch. of North Meols contains a monument to Roger Hesketh, by *Nollekens*, and one to Thomas Fleetwood, who attempted to drain Marion Mere. The grave-stones in the ch.-yard record a great many instances of longevity.

From Southport the tourist can [*Shropshire, &c.*]

proceed by rail to BURSBOUGH JUNC. (Rte. 40), whence he can journey either to Liverpool by Ormskirk, to Preston, or to Wigan.

ROUTE 40.

FROM LIVERPOOL TO PRESTON BY ORMSKIRK.

Quitting Liverpool from the Lancashire and Yorkshire station in Tithebarn-street, the rly. runs through the very populous district near the Docks, and arrives at

3½ m. WALTON JUNC., where the line to Wigan and Bolton goes off to the rt. The ch. of *Walton* is of great antiquity, although much modernised. In the reign of Henry VIII. we find Sir Edward Molyneux, the parson of Walton, prosecuting Thomas Baure, for an illegal taking of the tithes of lamb's wool, mortuaries, and tithes fishing. The ch. contains (in the vestry) a painted window with the crest of the Molineux family; an octagonal font, ornamented with figures and flowers; and the brass of an ecclesiastic. "The ancient practice of lifting or bearing, in allusion to the resurrection of the Saviour, prevailed in this parish; and on Easter Monday groups of rustics were seen running after the

maids; and on the day following groups of women running after the men, whom having caught they took in their arms, and lifted them above their heads, for which service a small tribute was claimed before they were suffered to depart. The custom, however, has fallen into disuse."—*Baines*. It prevailed also at Clitheroe, and many of the Lancashire towns, and in a document belonging to the Society of Antiquaries, it is mentioned that there is an entry of 14*l.* paid "to seven of the Queen's ladies and damsels, because they took up the King in his bed on the morrow of Easter, and made him pay a fine for the peace of the King, which he did of his own gift, through the hand of Hugo de Cerr."

On rt. is *Walton Hall* (J. Naylor, Esq.).

5 m. *Aintree Stat.* On the rt. is the Grand Stand of the Liverpool Racecourse, well known in sporting circles. The course is $1\frac{1}{2}$ m. long, with a direct run in of 1100 yards.

7 m. *Maghull Stat.* On l. 2 m. is *Sephton*, the ancient seat of the Earls of Sefton, who have long since migrated to Croxteth Park. A moat is all that remains to mark the old house. The *ch.* is a fine building of the 16th centy., consisting of nave, aisle, chancel, tower and spire, and two chapels, belonging to the Molineux and Blundell families. At the base of the spire rise stone uprights, called by Mr. Rasbotham, the antiquary, "four ill-disposed, heavy pinnacles." In the interior are very fine carved oak screens, one dividing the nave and chancel, the other separating the chapel from the side aisles. The pulpit is carved, and has in gilt letters the inscription—"He that covereth his sinne shall not prosper. But who so confesseth and forsaketh them shall have mercie, happy is the man,

1635." There is another inscription on the sounding-board. In the chancel are 16 finely carved stalls, as are also some of the seats in the nave. There are several interesting monuments to the families of Molineux and Blundell, and particularly an altar-tomb, of white marble, to Joan, Lady of Bradley, and wife of Sir Richard Molineux. Here also was buried, in 1789, John Sadler, of Liverpool, who, in 1756, invented, with Guy Green, the art of applying printed patterns to earthenware. At *Lydiate*, 3 m. N.W., are a few ivy-covered remains of a chapel, known as Lydiate Abbey, much resorted to for burial by Roman Catholic families. It was built by the Irelands, whose arms are over the porch, and consists at present of the nave, and a castellated tower of about the date of Henry VIII. Near the chapel is a new Roman Catholic *ch.*, which contains an alabaster figure of a bishop, supposed to be St. Cuthbert, the patron saint of Halsall; also in the panels of the altar and reading-desk some alabaster sculptures, representing the martyrdom of St. Catherine of Alexandria. These were taken from the old chapel. *Lydiate Hall* is a fine old timbered house, much altered and spoilt. It was the residence of the Irelands, and afterwards of Sir Thomas Anderton, who built the porch. The hall is very characteristic, and still possesses the dais with oak canopy, the carved oak wainscoting and panel, with large mantel-piece. A room upstairs possesses a curious cornice, and a relieving representing Henry VIII. and his wives. Amongst the other curiosities are some old paintings of religious subjects; "the priest hole," or hiding-place; an alabaster figure of St. Catherine, &c. Sir Francis Anderton narrowly escaped beheading after his taking part in the rebellion of 1715, and only escaped by promising to lead a very quiet life at

Lydiate, and not to go beyond 6 miles from it.

10 m. *Town Green Stat.* The ch. on l. is *Aughton*. It consists of a nave, N. aisle, chancel, chapel, and a tower with octagonal spire, rising from the N. aisle, which is separated from the nave by 4 pointed arches, resting on octagonal pillars. Most of the ch. is of the 16th centy., but the aisle is of later date. The interior contains a monument by *Westmacott*, with 2 beautiful bas-reliefs, to Rev. G. Vanbrugh, a former rector; also a brass with the following curious inscription:—

“My Ancestors Have Been Interred Here
Above 340 Yeares,
This To Me By Auncient Evidence Ap-
peares;
Which That All May Know, And None
Doe Offer Wrong,
It Is Ten Foot and One Inch Broad and
Foure Yards and Half Long.
Richard Mossock, 1686. Amen.
God Save The King To The Greate Glorie
of God.”

A new ch. was built in 1869 in the parish of Aughton. On rt. is *Moor Hall*, an old house of the 17th centy., and the seat of Miss Rosson. *Aughton Old Hall*, *Gerard Hall*, and *Walsh Hall* are all farmhouses.

12 m. ORMSKIRK JUNC. with the St. Helen's and Runcorn line. The town of *Ormskirk*, celebrated for its gingerbread (*Inns*: Wheatsheaf, King's Arms), is clean and well built, and contains an interesting ch. near the outskirts. It has been frequently altered, though the Perp. style predominates, and consists of nave and 3 aisles, chancel, and chapels, called the Derby and Scarisbrick chapels. At the W. end is a massive tower, and at the W. of the S. aisle is another, surmounted by a spire. The door on the W. side of the tower has Norm. mouldings, and on the outside wall, under the E. window, are two curious and very rude figures, almost obliterated. The curious arrangement of towers has

given rise to the tradition that the ch. was built by two maiden sisters named Orme, who quarrelled at the termination of their undertaking whether there should be a steeple or spire, and eventually each carried out her own idea. But this story is erroneous. “The parish of Ormskirk belonged to Orm, a Saxon proprietor of Halton, near Runcorn, who established himself here, and by his marriage with Alice, a daughter of Herveus, a Norman nobleman, ancestor of Theobald Walter, obtained large estates in this county. He was no doubt the founder of the ch. which was co-existent with the name of Ormskirk in the reign of Richard I., when Robert, son of Henry de Tarboch and Latham, who is supposed to be a descendant of Orm, founded the priory.”—*Baines*. In Edward II.'s time a charter was granted to the Prior of Burscough to have one market a week at their manor at Ormskirk. It is said that the bells of the ch. at Ormskirk belonged to Burscough, in proof of which is an inscription on one—“I. S. de B. Armig et e ux me fecerunt in honore Trinitatis R. B. 1497.” When they were removed to Ormskirk, it was found that the tower was not large enough to hold them, and hence the probable addition of the second. The chapel on the S.E. of the chancel has been for ages the burial-place of the Stanley family, and it contains an altar-tomb with the recumbent effigy of a knight, which time has cut in half. The head is remarkable for its flowing hair. A female figure reclines by his side. On the N. side of the ch. are two other effigies, commonly called King and Queen of the Isle of Man, and probably representing some of the members of the Stanley family. In the Scarisbrick chapel is the effigy of a knight of that family, who was in the Crusades.

To the S. of the town on the Aughton road, there is a fine Roman Catholic chapel. Ormskirk was one of the last places in England to part with its ducking-stool:—

"I'll speed me to the pond, where the high stool
On the long planks hangs o'er the muddy pool.
That stool, the dread of every scolding queen."—*Gay*.

It is a pretty walk of 2 m. to the N. on the Preston road to *Burscough Priory*, the scanty ruins of which stand in a field to the rt. Only 2 pillars of the central arches of the ch. remain, but from their proportions they must have been noble ones.

"Burscough Priory was founded for Black Canons by Robert Fitzhenry, Lord of Lathom, in the reign of Richard I. It was formerly the burial-place of the Earls of Derby, but many of the coffins have been removed to their vault in the ch. at Ormskirk, built by Edward, the 3rd Earl, great-grandson of Thomas, 1st Earl of Derby, who had the honour of crowning Henry VII. at Bosworth Field. At the Dissolution, this priory had a superior, 5 monks, and 40 servants. The last prior was John Barton, who surrendered the living and subscribed to the King's supremacy, dying in the year 1553."—*Roby*.

During the tenure of the prior's office by Thomas de Litherland, a terrible scandal happened from the disappearance of a maiden, named Margaret de la Bech. It was found that the prior had seized upon her and kept her immured in a deep dungeon. From this, however, she was rescued, a maniac, by Michael de Poynings and George le Clarke, both of whom were overtaken by the prior and slain. Notwithstanding the heinous nature of the crime, the prior's importance was so great, that he received a free pardon from Edward III.

3 m. from Ormskirk is the village of *Halsall*, the living of which is worth 3500*l*. The ch. contains in the chancel some interesting oak stalls, with grotesque carvings—such as a laughing head, men fighting, and a priest trying to interfere; also the marble figure of an ecclesiastic, said to be a bishop of Durham, but more probably one of the rectors of Halsall. On the opposite side is an altar-tomb, with the effigy of a knight of the Halsall family; and on the S. side of the chancel is a piscina.

3 m. N.E. of Ormskirk is *Lathom House*, the baronial mansion of Lord Skelmersdale, one of the noblest and most historic houses of the North of England, with which the fortunes of the Stanley family have ever been bound up. The estates and manor were originally possessed by Orm the Saxon, the founder of Ormskirk, and afterwards by Robert Fitzhenry, founder of Burscough Priory, whose grandson, Sir Robert de Lathom, married Amicia, co-heiress of Thomas Lord of Alfreton. His son by marriage with Sir Thomas de Knowsley's daughter obtained the estates which now belong to the Derby family; and, by the subsequent marriage of Isabella, daughter of Sir Thomas de Lathom, with Sir John Stanley, Lathom came into the possession of the Stanleys, who held it for 300 years. On the death of the 9th Earl of Derby, his daughter, Lady Ashburnham, sold it to a Mr. Furness, who, after a short possession, sold it again to the Bootle Wilbrahams, ancestors of the present owner. "While the Stanleys held Lathom, it surpassed for magnificence and hospitality all the residences of the North, assuming in these respects the attitude of a royal court, and its possessors were regarded with such veneration and esteem, that the following harmless inversion was familiar as household

words: 'God save the Earl of Derby and the King.'—*Burke*. Indeed, the profusion that prevailed throughout the whole establishment was of a royal kind, the weekly consumption in the 16th centy. being an ox and 20 sheep, 15 hogsheads of beer, besides large quantities of venison from the park, game from the wood, fish from the ponds. In 1561 the amount of wine drunk was 13½ tuns. Six gentlemen of the county were grooms of the chamber, and, according to the "Checkrowle of my Lord of Darby's householde" in 1587, the Steward had 3 servants, the Controller 3, and the Receiver-General 3. Seven gentlemen waiters had each a servant, and the chaplain, Sir Gilbert Townley, had 1. Then came 19 yeoman ushers, 6 grooms of the chamber, 2 sub-grooms, 13 yeomen waiters, 2 trumpeters, and inferior servants; making the total daily number to feed, 118 persons. "The last, though not perhaps the least, in the goodly catalogue is 'Henry y^e ffoole.' The Earl is also said to have kept a conjuror who cast out devils and healed diseases." Amongst the heroes that came from Lathom were Sir Thomas Stanley, Chief Governor of Ireland, who was called to Parliament as Lord Stanley in 1456; his son, the 1st Earl of Derby, who crowned Henry VII. on the field of Bosworth, in 1485; Sir William Stanley, who was beheaded for his adherence to Perkin Warbeck; Sir Edward Stanley, the hero of Flodden Field—

* There is Sir Edward Standley stout
For martial skill clear without make
Of Lathom House by line came out
Whose blood will never turn their back."
Harl. MSS.

and the famous Earl of Derby, who was beheaded for his loyalty to the King, at Bolton. King Henry VIII. paid a visit, after the execution of Sir William Stanley, to Lathom; and it is recorded that "the Earl, after his royal guest had viewed the

whole house, conducted him up to the leads for a prospect of the country. The Earl's fool, who was among the company, observing the King draw near to the edge, not guarded by a balustrade, stepped up to the Earl, and, pointing down to the precipice, said, 'Tom, remember Will.' The King understood the meaning, and made all haste down-stairs and out of the house; and the fool, long after, seemed mightily concerned that his lord had not had courage to take the opportunity of avenging himself for the death of his brother."—*Burke*.

But the crowning incident in the history of Lathom House was the siege in 1644 by the Parliamentary forces under Sir Thomas Fairfax. The Earl of Derby was then in his castle in the Isle of Man, having left Lathom in charge of his countess, Charlotte de la Tremouille, daughter of Claude Duc de Tremouille, and granddaughter of William Prince of Orange. To this heroic lady Sir Thomas Fairfax declared that she should be safely conducted to Knowsley, and there enjoy half the Earl's estates, on condition of surrendering Lathom. The message was delivered by Colonel Morgan, "a little man, short and peremptory, who met with staidness to coole his heat, and he had the honour to carry backe this last answer, for her ladyship could scruce them to noe more delays.

"1st. That she refused all their articles, and was truly happy they had refused hers, protesting that she had rather hazard her life than offer the like again.

"2nd. That though a woman and a stranger, divorc'd from her friends, and rob'd of her estates, she was ready to receive their utmost vyolence, trusting in God both for protection and deliverance." As Lathom House then existed, it was surrounded by a strong wall,

strengthened by 9 towers, filled with ordnance, and commanding each other. In the centre was the Eagle Tower, more lofty than the others, and facing the Gatehouse, which had a strong tower on each side. Externally a moat ran round the walls, and between them a strong row of palisades. "Before the house, to the S. and S.W., is a rising ground, so near as to overlook the top of it, from which it falls so quick that nothing planted against it on those sides can touch it further than the front wall; and on the N. and E. sides there is another rising ground, even to the edge of the moat." The garrison consisted of 300 men, and included Captains Charnock, Chisenall, Ogle, Molyneux, and Ffarington, while the besieger's forces numbered over 3000, commanded by Cols. C. Egerton, Ashton, Holland, and Morgan. For 14 days they, deceived by the representations of the chaplain, the Rev. Mr. Rutter, an old friend of one of the Parliamentarians, thought they would endeavour to reduce the place by famine, believing that the supplies were very short; but finding their mistake, they set about constructing trenches, during which they were often sadly harassed by the brave garrison. In 3 months' time, however, a battery was raised near the moat, and a mortar planted there—a mighty engine, throwing stones 13 inches in diameter, and 80 lbs. weight, and also grenades, balls of iron, filled with powder, and lighted by fuses. This mortar was the terror of the besieged as well as the besieging, to whom it frequently did the most danger; and on Easter Monday, succeeded in lodging a 24-pounder in her ladyship's chamber in the Eagle Tower, where she and her children were at breakfast. "The little ladies had stomach to digest cannon, but the stoutest souldiers had noe hearts for grenades, and

might not they att once free themselves from the continual expectation of death?" Whereupon the countess ordered a sally—

" 'Twas then they rais'd 'mid sap and siege
The banners of their ryghtful liege
At their she-captain's call,
Who miracle of womankind
Lent mettle to the meanest hind
That mann'd her castle wall;"

and, accordingly, on the 26th April the sally took place, which resulted in the loss of two men on the besieger's side, the destruction of the enemy's cannon, and the levelling of the ditch. On the 27th of May another sally was made, but it was found that the enemy had finally retreated, intelligence having been received that Prince Rupert had entered Lancashire, and was then at Stockport. For 4 months the siege had continued, the garrison having lost but 6 men, while the Parliamentary forces lost 500 men and expended 100 barrels of gunpowder.

The gallant Countess and her family then returned to the Isle of Man, and after the execution of the Earl at Bolton, Lathom underwent another siege by General Egerton, when, the garrison being driven to straits by the failure of supplies, the brave old house was surrounded and destroyed; on which occasion "the sequestrators under Cromwell, wearying of the slow disposal of the building materials by sale, invited the peasants of the hundred of West Derby to take away the stones and timbers without any charge."

Not a vestige remained of old Lathom. "Golforden, along whose banks knights and ladies have a thousand times made resort, harking to stories as varied as those of Boccaccio—the maudlin well, where the pilgrim and the lazar devoutly cooled their parched lips—the brewing-house—the training round—every appendage to antique

baronial state—all now are changed, and a modern mansion and a new possessor fill their place." — *Heywood.*

The modern house of Lathom is a splendid one, and was commenced by the 9th Earl, and finished by Sir Thomas Bootle, Chancellor to Frederick, Prince of Wales, in the last centy. The N. front is 156 ft. in length, and is connected with the offices by a colonnade with Ionic pillars. The park is 4 miles in circumference, and contains fallow deer.

There are several almshouses in it, founded by one of the Stanleys.

15 m. *BURSCOUGH JUNC.*, where the Southport and Wigan line crosses. [From thence it is 8 m. to Southport (Rte. 39), passing *New Lane* and *Bescar Lane* Sts.

To the l. of the latter, 1½ m., is *Scarisbrick Hall*, the seat of Lady Scarisbrick. The house has been splendidly restored, from designs of the *Pugins*, father and son, in Tudor style. The corridors are all laid with mosaic, and the hall, a fine apartment, is hung round with figures of knights, carved in oak, said to have been brought from Spain. To Wigan (rt.) it is 11 m., passing 2½ m. *Newburgh Stat.*

5 m. *Apply Bridge Stat.* To rt. is the high ground of *Ashurst Beacon* and *Upholland*, and to l. that of *Eccleston* and *Wrightington*. *Wrightington Hall* is the seat of T. Dicconson *Scarisbrick, Esq.*, and *Harrock Hall* of Mrs. Bolton. Close to *Wrightington*, which is situated in a very picturesque park, full of deer, is the old Elizabethan timber hall, with black and yellow compartments. *Harrock* was formerly occupied for four generations by the *Rigbies*, a family well known in Lancashire history of the Civil Wars.

On *Shevington Moor* is an old Causeway, called *Cripplegate*, from

a tradition that two maiden ladies gave alms to every cripple that passed along it. *Shevington Hall* (*J. Tayleur, Esq.*).

7 m. *Gathurst Stat.*

10 m. *WIGAN JUNC.* (Rte. 26.)]

17½ m. *Rufford Stat.* To the l. is *Rufford Hall*, the seat of Sir T. G. *Hesketh, Bart.*, a handsome Grecian mansion; it was built in 1798. The estate formerly belonged to the *Fyttons*, and was brought into the present family by marriage of *Maud Fytton* with Sir *William Heskayte* in 1810.

In the park is *Old Rufford Hall*, an interesting Elizabethan wood- and plaster building, with some carved panellings. The banquet hall has a fine open timber roof, with carved angels supporting shields. The screen is detached from the walls, and movable.

Rufford Ch., rebuilt in 1870, contains the effigy of a knight (Sir *Thomas Hesketh*) and lady. *Roger Dolisworth*, the antiquary, is also buried here. The font is decorated with the same inscription as the one at *Sandbach*, in *Cheshire* (Rte. 13), viz.: *NIWON ANOMHMA MH MONAN OWIN*. It can be read either way.

2 m. E. of *Rufford* is *Maudesley Hall*, now a farmhouse. It was the seat of the *Maudesley* family in the 17th centy., and is picturesquely situated on a rock of new red sandstone.

Crossing the river *Douglas* the train reaches, 20 m., *Croston Stat.*

The village, which is situated on the banks of the *Yarrow*, is of considerable antiquity, and contains the base of a large market-cross. The *ch.* has nave, chancel, and aisles, and a fine oak roof. The curfew is still rung every night. In the grounds of *Croston Hall* (*J. R. De Trafford, Esq.*) is a beautiful Roman Catholic chapel, from designs by *Pugin*, who also built the hall,

in true Gothic taste. In the 16th centy. Croston was inhabited by the family of Ashton, who were stern Papists. Roger Ashton was executed for "entertaining missionaries" nominally, but really because he was an emissary of the Queen of Scots in her communications with the English army in Flanders.

Eccleston Ch., 1½ m. further up the Yarrow, has a stained-glass window by *Ballantyne*, and the effigy of a priest. "One of the most noteworthy features in the ch. is the pewing, which affords us evidence of the origin of pews, and takes us back to the transition period, when the wealthy parishioners were beginning to put up for themselves, on the floor of the parish ch., wooden enclosures, each erecting his own, of the size and shape he liked best. The pews here are of all shapes, bearing various dates. Each is a distinct enclosure of oak, its own partition being carried entirely round, even though the partition of another pew be only an inch or two distant; while here and there, where the more considerable families have left a space of 2 or 3 ft., some humbler parishioner has erected a seat without any enclosure at all." At *Gradwells Farm*, 1 m. N.E., are traces of a religious house, incorporated in the building, and a very perfect stone cross still exists in the garden.

Near Bretherton, 2 m. l., is *Bank Hall*, an Elizabethan (farm) house of the date 1608.

2 m. N. of Bretherton is *Hoole*, overlooking the mouth of the Douglas. The ch. contains a brass and E. window in memory of the Rev. Jeremiah Horrox, the astronomer, who was curate of Hoole. "The window represents him receiving the sun's disk on a sheet, with the motto—'Venus in sole visu,' and his own exclamation, 'Ecce gratissimum spectaculum

et tot votorum materiem.'" Close to the estuary of the Douglas is *Heaketh-with-Beeronsall*, which formerly was in request as a watering-place, until the Ribble Navigation Company erected a large embankment, which utterly spoilt it. William Fleetwood, lawyer, antiquary, and Recorder of London, was born here, 1569.

22 m. *Midge Hall Stat.*

26 m. PRESTON JUNC., from whence the Blackburn line continues to the rt., the traveller to Preston, 29 m., approaching the London and North-Western Rly., and crossing the Ribble, to run into the general stat.

ROUTE 41.

FROM PRESTON TO FLEETWOOD BY LYTHAM AND BLACKPOOL.

Preston (Hotels: Victoria, Bull), although almost entirely devoted to manufacturing pursuits, is one of the most interesting towns in Lancashire, both from its beautiful situation and the high position that it has always taken in Lancashire annals, and which obtained for it the high sounding title of "Proud Preston."

Placed upon the summit of a long

ridge, which runs parallel to the north bank of the Ribble, it overlooks a large expanse of flat country to the south and north of the estuary, which speedily acquires a considerable breadth, while a picturesque background is afforded by the wooded fells of Longridge and Ribblesdale. Camden says of it, "But when the grandeur of this city (Coccium) having come to its full period, was at last destroyed by either wars or earthquake (for so 'tis commonly supposed) somewhat lower, when the tide flows up the Ribbel, and is called by the geographers BELLISAMA ESTUARIUM, near Penworth (where stood a castle in the Conqueror's time, as appears by the records of the said king). From the ruins of Ribbleschester sprang Preston, a large town, handsome for these parts and populous, so called from the religious, for the name in our language signifies Priest's Town." Dr. Kuerden, an antiquary of note, was convinced that Preston was the Rhigodunum of Ptolemy, his principal argument being that a Roman highway passed from Ribchester, close to the N. side of the town, on its way to Kirkham, and that the country people in his day called this road the Watling Street. It is of great antiquity, dating from the Saxons, who built a Mote Hall, and it was probably then called Amounderness, which has given its name to the Hundred. During the reign of Edward III., when the county was made palatinate, Preston was attacked by the Scots under Robert Bruce, and a great portion of it burnt. It was even then an important town, occupying a position that commanded the navigation, the fisheries, and the lower fords of the Ribble. "The old castle of Penwortham, situate nearer the estuary, a baronial residence in earlier times of the great Earls of Chester, had, on the merging of their lands in the vast estates of

the Duchy of Lancaster, lost its ancient grandeur and strength. No longer able to protect the village which had grown under its shelter, it was forsaken by the neighbouring fishermen and craftsmen, who preferred to settle in the flourishing town on the opposite side of the river. The Benedictine priory, although only a timber building of moderate dimensions, survived its protector, the stone castle, until the dissolution of the religious houses. But the rival town, the town of priests, was the favourite residence of ecclesiastics, the district Amounderness having been given by Athelstan to the church at York, which was the probable cause of its connection with large cathedral establishments. A borough by prescription, Preston boasts of the antiquity of its charters, the honours of its guilds, and, though never the assize town, its ancient privilege of gibbet and gaol, tumbrel and pillory. Although Lancaster was the capital of the county, Preston, as its people never forgot, was the capital of the Duchy, and all the business of the Duchy, at one time more considerable than that of the county, was transacted in the palatine county of Preston."—*Halley*.

From the time of Henry I. to that of Charles II. no less than fifteen charters were granted to the town. King James I. was entertained at the Town Hall on his way to partake of the festivities of Sir Richard Hoghton at Hoghton Tower, and was entertained by a grand reception, in which the boys of the grammar school took part, and the Corporation "presented him with a bowle." During the Civil War Preston took the side of the Parliament, the majority of the Council being Cromwellians. Adam Morte, a Royalist, declined to serve as Mayor, having no sympathy with his companions, and was therefore fined 100 marks for his contumacy.

But he was soon afterwards killed in an attack made upon the town in 1643 by the Parliamentary forces under Sir John Seaton, when great slaughter took place amongst the Royalists who were driven out.

Never did Preston go through a more formidable crisis than in 1715, when the Chevalier St. George marched from Lancaster to Preston, and, raising his standard at the market cross, was then and there proclaimed King of England. The rebels might have made a good stand, had they not fallen victims to the hospitality of the Preston inhabitants and the smiles of the Lancashire witches. But even at the last, when the town was worsted by the Royal forces under General Wills, the Scotch, under the leadership of the brave Brigadier Macintosh and the unfortunate Earl of Derwentwater, might have achieved success, had not the rebel army been cursed by a cowardly and treacherous commander, General Forster, who first of all gave up his two subordinates to the English as hostages, and surrendered the town next morning. The English Papists saved themselves by running away, but about 1500 Scotch were taken to expiate their rebellion on the gallows or in the Plantations. This unfortunate episode is commemorated in several of the Lancashire ballads, such as 'Towneley's Ghost,' 'Jemmy Dawson,' 'The Preston Prisoners to the Ladies about Court,' and 'Macintosh's Farewell.'

" My Lord Derwentwater, when he found
That Forster had drawn his left wing
round,
Said 'I wish I were with my dear wife,
For I fear that I will lose my life.'
Macintosh he shook his head
To see his soldiers all lie dead;
'It was not for the loss of those,
But I fear we're taken by our foes!'"

It was during the 18th centy. that Preston was at its glory, as a rendezvous of fashion and society.

Dr. Whitaker calls it "an elegant and economical town, the resort of well-born but ill-portioned and ill-endowed old maids and widows." The adherents of the old Pretender were probably more dazzled by the (to them) unaccustomed gaiety, for in an account written by one of them, it is said that "the Ladys in this towne, Preston, are so very beautiful and so richly attired, that the gentlemen soldiers from Wednesday to Saturday minded nothing but courting and feasting."

As an illustration of the state of trade in the middle of the last century, it is mentioned by Mr. Thomas Walker, in 'The Original,' that the wine merchant who used to supply Manchester lived in Proud Preston, as being the resort of all the gentry, and that his orders, which rarely exceeded a gallon of wine at a time, were always executed on horseback.

The rebellion of 1745 formed another leading episode in the history of Preston, when Prince Charles Edward marched through the town at the head of the insurgents, and was proclaimed King in the market-place on the 27th Nov. But on the following 12th Dec. they passed through again, much dispirited after their march from Derby.

The modern history of the town is associated with the cotton trade and the factory system, which by the introduction of spinning in 1777 has increased the population from 6000, which it then was, to about 90,000. One of the greatest benefactors that the town had in the way of encouraging and fostering trade was Mr. Samuel Horrocks, who was so successful in his efforts to localise the cotton manufacture here that the character of the town became completely altered—the old county interest having to compete with that of the manufacturers. Mr. Horrocks contested the representa-

tion of Preston, and won his seat, having for his colleague the late Earl of Derby. "The great extension of the cotton trade must be attributed to the fact that the surplus agricultural labour from the N. and W. of the county finds its way first of all to Preston, giving the manufacturers the advantage of abundant labour at a rather cheaper rate than elsewhere, while this is compensated to the operatives by the cheaper cost of provisions, being less than in the districts more entirely given up to manufacturing industry."—*Baines*. There are upwards of 77 mills, many of which, such as Swainson and Birley's, are of great size and importance. These give employment to about 26,000 persons; the total number of spindles is 1,652,668; the number of looms, 50,608; and the weekly produce of yarn, 518 cwt. Unfortunately Preston has not been satisfied with its pre-eminence in the cotton trade, but has acquired for itself a reputation for strikes—which have frequently happened of long duration and systematic organization. One of the most formidable was the strike which commenced in Oct., 1853, and lasted till the succeeding May, during which time 16,000 hands were supported by voluntary contributions from sympathisers of their own class. "The strike of 1828 led to the invention of the self-actor, which in the great strike of 1836 was partially introduced, and since that of 1853 has been generally adopted, so that 'hand-mules' are now only used in works where very high numbers (or very fine thread) are spun." Amongst the natives of Preston was Arkwright, who followed his trade as a barber, 1732, and here erected his first powerloom. He was celebrated for his skill in dying hair and making wigs, his being esteemed the best in the country; and during his travels for the purchase and sale of hair, he was

struck with the continual complaint of deficiency of the supply of cotton woft and the want of cotton warp yarns. Having devoted some attention to clockmaking, he set to work and devised in 1769 his waterframe spinning-machine, which was erected at Cromford on the Derwent, Arkwright having seen too much of the risk that attached to inventions, to think of setting up his machine in his own county. After a long and prosperous career, in which he founded the fortunes of his family, he died, in 1792, Sir Richard Arkwright, having been knighted for presenting an address to George III. in his official capacity of High Sheriff of Derbyshire. Lady Hamilton, the friend of Nelson, was also a native of Preston; and of more modern celebrities, may be mentioned Madame Lemmens-Sherrington, the vocalist.

The *Post-office* is in Lancaster-road.

The town consists principally of one long street running E. and W., and occupying a rather steep ridge, from which the ground falls off rapidly to the Ribble, which is crossed by 4 bridges—the Walton Bridge of 3 arches, the Penwortham Bridge of 5, and 2 lofty viaducts, over which the London and North-Western and the Lancashire and Yorkshire Railways are respectively carried. The main streets are the Fishergate, Church-street, and Friargate, and it is in these that the principal public buildings are congregated. Of these the chief is the *Town Hall*, conspicuous for many miles for its noble tower and spire. It is situated in the market-place, and is a magnificent Early English building, from designs by *Mr. G. G. Scott*, who has blended with it continental features, which give it a very distinctive and striking character. The front, which faces Fishergate, is 86 ft. in height, and has a covered arcade, the carved

figures on which are well worthy of examination. Above it is a stone balcony, with a very elaborate wrought-iron railing.

From the S.W. of the building springs the tower, which is altogether 197 ft. in height, and contains a magnificent clock and chimes, the former being the largest in the kingdom next to that of Westminster. The north, or Market-place front, is 74 ft. in length, and that of the Fishergate 92 ft. The interior is divided into two portions, somewhat like St. George's Hall at Liverpool: the one being for the official and commercial community, the other for county and general meetings. The Great Hall is a noble apartment, 82 ft. long by 54 broad, and will seat 1100 persons. Medallions of celebrities in art, science, and discovery, are freely lavished amongst the ornaments, while the windows are adorned with the armorial bearings of Preston and other Lancashire towns. The vestibule, opposite the entrance to the hall, is also most elaborately decorated, and contains, in the S. vestibule, an interesting series of wall-pictures, in 12 compartments, representing a guild procession in the time of Henry VIII., with an extract underneath from Queen Elizabeth's charter, bearing upon the rights and liberties of the guild. In the N. vestibule the corresponding pictures are representative of peace and war.

The ground-floor is principally occupied by the Exchange, the ceiling of which is supported by remarkably fine granite pillars. The carving of the capitals, as well as of the chimney-pieces, should be particularly noticed. The whole building cost 45,000*l.*, and is one of the finest of its class in the whole kingdom. It was opened, with great state, in 1867, by the late Earl of Derby.

The churches of Preston are

nearly all of modern erection. *St. John's*, the parish ch., in Church-street (rebuilt in 1853), is a fine Dec. building, with nave, chancel, aisles, and lofty spire. The interior contains a profusion of stained glass. The other churches are *Christ Ch.*, of pseudo-Norm. style, with 2 octagonal towers; *Trinity Ch.*, good stained glass; *St. Mark's*, Maudlands, E.E., from designs by *Paley*, with apsidal chancel; with some half-dozen others, of no particular interest. There are also 6 R. C. churches, of which *St. Walburgis*, in Maudlands, is worth visiting for its beautiful E. E. architecture, its spire, 303 ft., and its stained glass. Maudlands itself obtained its name from having been the site of the old hospital dedicated to St. Mary Magdalen. *St. Wilfrid's* also has a fine altar-piece: subject, the Descent from the Cross. In St. Ignatius-square is a large convent and R. C. school, at which 500 children daily attend for instruction. In Winckley-square is the *Literary Institute*, which possesses a well-filled library and museum; and there is a second establishment of the same kind, called the *Institution for the Diffusion of Useful Knowledge*, at Avenham, which was founded by Dr. Shepherd in 1761, who bequeathed to it his valuable library.

Few towns are so well off as Preston now is for public gardens and recreation grounds. The *Avenham Park* is situated on the steep bank of the Ribble, to the E. of the Lancashire and Yorkshire Rly., occupying the site of what used to be called the "Washing Steed," where the Preston housewives used to wash their clothes. Adjoining the Avenham Park is *Miller Park*, which extends as far as the London and North-Western Rly., the two forming a charmingly picturesque piece of ground of 26 acres. Not only have the natural features of the

steep bank been brought into active harmony with the landscape gardening, but the slopes of the rly. embankments, which are usually such eyesores, have been prettily planted, and thus made to add to the effect. They were both designed and laid out by Mr. Milner, and are most picturesque; the Avenham Park being approached by an avenue of lime-trees, supposed to be 170 years old. The view of the parks, as the tourist is crossing the viaducts of the rlys., with their gay parterres and fountains, the river flowing in a graceful sweep, and the wooded terrace-bank, topped with handsome villa residences, make as pleasant a picture for the outskirts of a large town as can well be imagined.

An interesting point, too, in the formation of these parks is the fact that when the stoppage of trade took place during the cotton famine, immense numbers of people found employment in the laying them out.

The *Moor Park* is a third park, situated on the high ground near Fulwood Barracks, quite on the outskirts of the town, and prettily laid out, though not possessing the same scenic advantages as the other two.

Preston should not be dismissed without mention of its *guilds*, instituted by Henry III. for the renewal of the freedom of the burgesses. They have been held in the town at periodic intervals of 20 years, the mayor for the year being dignified by the name of the Guild Mayor. The festival which then takes place is something like that of Shrewsbury or Coventry, and is participated in by all the traders of the town, who parade in grand procession. In 1762, the guild mayor was Robert Parker, Esq., who, the old historian of Preston says, "was singularly studious to please, and to inspire mirth and festivity into every individual." Amongst the curious old Council

orders that prevailed here was one passed at the guild of 1682, intended to limit the number of freemen of the borough. No one was to be admitted a burges within the next five years, except in some special exceptions, when the mayor was allowed to confer the freedom "for y^e greater reputⁿ, state, and credit o' this Incorporaçon upon some P.sons of honour, nobility, or gentry; but upon no o' p. sons except it bee upon some rare or special occasion."

"The holding of a guild was very expensive. The one held in the year 1802 cost the corporation 1302*l.*, and that held in 1822, 1278*l.* It is erroneously supposed by some to be obligatory upon the corporation to celebrate a guild every 20 years; but no such obligation exists. The guilds have, indeed, for upwards of 2 centuries and a half been held at regular intervals, in virtue of a by-law of the Mayor, Stewards, and Aldermen of the Guild, passed in the reign of Queen Elizabeth; but this is quite a matter of choice and arrangement, and should the entertainments and processions ever wholly cease, no privilege or franchise would be lost."—*Baines.*

Preston, while ranking high as a manufacturing town, is also a port, vessels of considerable size being able to ascend the Ribble, at spring-tides, as far as the New Quay. It has also a trade, though of no great importance, in iron shipbuilding. By the convergence of several lines of rly. it is placed in communication with all parts of the kingdom, and the general rly. station in Fishergate is probably the most dangerous, ugly, and inconvenient station in Great Britain.

Rail to Manchester by Chorley, 31 m.; Wigan, 15 m.; Warrington, 27 m.; Liverpool by Ormskirk, 29 m.; Fleetwood, 20 m.; Blackpool, 18 m.; Lytham, 14 m.; Kirkham, 8 m.; Garstang, 9½ m.; Lancaster,

21 m.; Blackburn, 11 m.; Hoghton Tower, 6 m.; Longridge, 7 m.

On a high wooded bank, on the N. side of the Ribble below Preston is *Penwortham*, formerly the seat of the powerful Earls of Chester, and afterwards of the Benedictine Priory attached to that of Evesham. Of these buildings, which gave importance to the district before Preston rose up, nothing is left; and Penwortham is now a pretty suburban village, ornamented with handsome residences, such as *The Priory*, originally a cell, granted to the Fleetwoods in the time of Edward III., and converted into a modern residence by the late Lawrence Rawstorne, Esq.; *The Hall* (F. E. Marshall, Esq.); *Hurst Grange* (W. A. Hulton, Esq.). The *ch.*, restored in 1856 by *Paley*, contains nave, chancel, and aisles, with a low tower, and in the interior some monuments to the families of Fleetwood and Rawstorne. About 50 years ago a pavement of blue boulder stones was discovered, which was probably a vicinal way between Penwortham and the Roman station at Walton. In 1856 excavations were carried on in the Castle Hill by the Lancashire Historic Society, when traces of early habitation were found. *Walton-le-Dale* is another prettily situated village, 2 m. from Preston, up the Ribble, and, in addition to possessing some cotton-factories and print-works, is a favourite residence with Preston merchants. The *ch.* overlooks the Ribble (S. bank), and consists of nave, chancel, and transept, the latter a modern addition. The stained glass is by *Wailes*. There are monuments to the Hoghtons of Hoghton Tower and the Asshetons. Among the former is a *brass* with the following inscription:—"Here lyeth the body of a pure virgin, espoused to the man Xt Jesus, Mrs. Cordelia Hoghton, whose honorable

descent you know. Know now her ascent."

Walton is historically famous as the scene of the battle between Oliver Cromwell and the Duke of Hamilton, and also of a skirmish, in 1715, between Parson Woods of Chowbent, at the head of his congregation, and the Scotch rebels. From remains discovered by Mr. Hardwick, it seems that Walton was the site of a Roman station, and perhaps that of *Coccium*. In the neighbourhood is *Coverdale Hall*, now a farmhouse, of the date 1700. *Cooper Hill* is noteworthy, as having a lightning conductor affixed to it by Benjamin Franklin.

[An excursion can be made from Preston to Longridge by a primitive little railwayette, which leaves Preston from *Maudland Stat.* and calls at *Deepdale Stat.*, near Moor Park. It was originally intended for the conveyance of stone from the quarries at Longridge, and was afterwards adapted for passenger-traffic.

4 m. *Grimsargh Stat.* To the rt., 1½ m., is *Red Scar*, the picturesquely situated Elizabethan seat of W. Assheton Cross, Esq., placed in a most beautiful position on a steep bank, or "scar," overlooking the Ribble, which, in its course to Ribchester, winds in a very circuitous manner. The Preston water-reservoirs are situated at Grimsargh, and again, at 7 m., *Longridge (Inn: Towneley Arms)*. With the exception of the quarries in the millstone-grit, which are very extensive, there is nothing to see at Longridge. The antiquary will find at *Written Stone*, 1½ m. N.E., a stone with the inscription, "*Rauffe Radcliffe laide this stone here to lye for ever 1655.*" The parson of Longridge is mentioned in a document of the date of 1556 as "Sir Robert Cotome, priest of Longryche, able to

read the Gospel and mynystre the Divine offyces, although a Decon only. He was grave and chaste, could plaie on the musiques, and was noe typler or dyce man." The scenery on this side the Fell is somewhat dreary, although the distant views of the Bleasdale Fells are very fine. The pedestrian can make his way from Longridge to the Vale of Hodder, and on to *Whitewell*, the distance being between 8 and 9 m. At 3 m. the road falls into the valley of the Load river, which further on joins the Hodder in a prettily-wooded little valley, under Longridge Fell. Near this point on l. is an old house called *Hesketh End*, formerly the seat of the Alstons, which has inscriptions on the outside commemorating the landing of the Romans, Saxons, Danes, and Normans, and the Protestant Reformation. Close by is a chapel, the earliest Nonconformist place of worship in Lancashire. On the l. is *Chipping*, an out-of-the-way little village at the foot of the hills, which possesses a charity school, founded, in 1684, by John Brabbin. Over the door is the motto, "Doce, disce vel discede." The ch. is of the date of the 16th centy., although there are some sculptures on the pillars which would seem to be of earlier date. The same may be said of the font, the pedestal and sides of which are decorated with shields containing symbols of the Passion, and the initials of donors. These appearances have puzzled antiquaries, they having at different times been declared to be Runic. Adjoining the village, and nestling under the slopes of Parlick Fell (1416 ft.), is *Leagram Hall* (G. Weld, Esq.). Most of the houses, even the labourers' cottages, in the parish of Chipping are old, families living here for centuries undisturbed by the world.

From the junction of the Load

with the Hodder up to Whitewell (Rte. 32) there is no regular path for the whole way. The tourist should take the rt. bank, and the valley will well repay him, for it is full of delicious river views, and high wooded banks coming close to the water.]

The Wyre Valley Rly. quits the main line soon after leaving the general station, and turns to the l., traversing the uninteresting district between the estuaries of the Ribble and the Wyre, known as the *Fylde*. "This soil bears oats pretty well, but is not so good for barley; it makes excellent pasture, especially towards the sea, where it is partly champain, where a great part of it is called the File, as one would guess for the Feild, yet in the records of the Tower it is expressed by the Latin word *Lima*, which signifies a file, a smith's instrument, wherewith iron or other things are polished. In other places it is fenny, and therefore less wholesome."—*Camden*.

On the l. the village of Ashton, in which are some handsome suburban residences overlooking the Ribble—the *Willows* (W. O. Pilkington, Esq.); the *Larches* (W. Birley, Esq.). *Tulketh Hall*, now a parsonage, is an old castellated building, said to have been the original residence of the monks of Furness on their first arrival from Normandy into Lancashire. To the rt. of the line is *Cottam*, an old timber house, the seat of the Haydocks, one of whom, George Haydock, was executed for conspiracy in the reign of Elizabeth.

3 m. *Lea Road Stat.* On l. is *Clifton Hall* (E. Birley, Esq.), the ancient seat of the family of Clifton, which in the time of the Civil War was the most powerful in the Fylde, being lords not only of Clifton, but of Fairsnape, Westby, Lytham, and other manors. In the reign of

Edward III. we hear of William de Clifton prohibiting the Rector of Kirkham from performing Divine service, whipping the Abbot's deputy through the streets, forbidding his tenantry to have their children baptized, and sundry other ungodly acts. During the war they were strong Royalists. Near the river bank is *Lea Hall*, which came to the Hoghtons by the marriage of Sir Richard de Hoghton, 1309, to Sibille, heiress of William de Lea. Thomas Hoghton, the sheriff, was slain here by Thomas Langton, Baron of Newton, in 1589.

5 m. From *Salwick Stat.* the rly. runs rather inland to

8 m. **KIRKHAM JUNC.** The town of *Kirkham* on l. is a brisk, thriving little place, partly dependent on flax and spinning mills. The *ch.*, which consists of nave, aisles, chancel, and spire, has been so added to of late years as to be almost a new one. In the interior are monuments to the Clifton family, and a tombstone with the following epitaph—

"She desired us, in a humble voice, not to be angry.

Not to be angry.

Mortals, neither swear nor lie,

But do as you would be done by."

The R. C. church is a fine E. Eng. building by *Pugin*.

Near the town towards *Wrae Green* is *Ribby Hall*, the seat of H. H. Hornby, Esq., and 2½ S. is *Freckleton*, the marshy ground adjoining which was the locale of a fierce encounter in 1644 between the Royalists under Sir Thomas Tyldesley and the Parliamentary troops under Col. Booth; the former were routed and more than 1000 prisoners taken.

To the N. of Kirkham is *Weeton*, where are traces of an old (Roman?) road, called *Dean's*, or *Dane's Path*. *Weeton* is also notable for its British cairns at *Weeton Lane Heads*, from

which many urns have been exhumed by Mr. Thornber and Mr. Just, and for being associated with the oldest ghost of the Fylde country—the hairy ghost, the Celtic equivalent of the ancient Satyr. Up to a generation ago, the *Teanla* fires were still burnt through all these parts on all these parts on All Saints night, and the old pits for them, with ashes and calcined stones, may be found in every township.

A singular mode of extracting salt is mentioned as being in vogue in these seaside parishes by Bowen in 1772. "The inhabitants gather great heaps of sand together, which having lain some time, they put into troughs full of holes at the bottom, pour water upon them, and boil the lees into white salt."

[A branch line is given off on the L. to Lytham, from whence, by a short independent line, the tourist can proceed to Blackpool without returning to Kirkham.]

1½ m. *Wrae Green Stat.* A guide is always stationed at *Wrae* to take people safely across the ford of the Ribble to *Heaketh Bank*.

4 m. *Moss Side Stat.*

5½ m. *Warton Stat.* There is a small dock near this point, where vessels sailing to Preston discharge their cargoes into smaller craft.

6 m. *Lytham (Hotel: Clifton Arms)* is a modern bathing place, much sought after by Lancashire visitors, who prefer its quiet to the more noisy and excursion-haunted Blackpool or Southport. Although the character of the sea is too much that of the estuary, the air is very fine and clear, and the views towards Preston, Southport, and in clear weather the Welsh hills, are extremely pretty. The *ch.* was rebuilt in 1834, and contains some stained glass and monuments to the Clifton family, whose seat, *Lytham*

Hall (Col. Clifton) adjoins the town on the N. "In ancient times the name of this place was variously written Ledin and Lethum. The whole district belonged at one period, about 1197, to Richard Fitz-Roger, who gave all his lands here to the monks of Durham, for the purpose of founding a Benedictine cell in honour of St. Mary and St. Cuthbert. The lands thus granted constitute the whole of the present parish of Lytham. In 1554 we find the site, cells, and domains of Lytham granted to Sir Thomas Holcroft, who in 1606 is said to have sold the property to Sir Cuthbert Clifton of Westby. At all events the last-named family held the manor and estates in the reign of Charles I."—*Burke*.

[The *Seaside Rly.* to Blackpool, $7\frac{1}{2}$ m. distant, runs all the way close to the water, calling at the stations of *Stony Hill* and *South Shore*.]

13 m. POULTON JUNC. The village of *Poulton-in-the-Fylde* (generally called Pooton) is situated on rising ground to l. of the station, and although insignificant as to size, is a sort of centre for the district of the Fylde. The *ch.*, which contains nave and chancel was erected in the last centy. in place of an old chapel which had existed for several hundred years. The tower of this chapel, which was built in Charles I.'s reign, still forms portion of the present *ch.* In the interior are monuments to the Fleetwood and Hesketh families. In the main street of Poulton is a pillar resting on a basement of steps. The curfew bell is rung here during the winter.

About 1 m. to rt. on the bank of the Wyre is *Mains Hall*, an old house of the Heskeths, in the secret hiding places of which Cardinal Allen, in the reign of Elizabeth, often found security.

[A line on l. runs to Blackpool, passing *Biopham Stat.* Domesday Book mentions it as Biscopham, and the *ch.* contains a mediæval chalice.

18 m. *Blackpool. Hotels:* The Imperial, a magnificent and first-class hotel situated at the N. end of the town in the grounds of Claremont; Clifton Arms, good; Albion; with every kind of refreshment-houses suitable to the wants and necessities of the excursionists who during the summer come in countless numbers. Manchester, Preston, Blackburn, and Liverpool empty themselves on fine summer days into Blackpool, which is the chosen Arcadia of manufacturing Lancashire. It is worth seeing under these circumstances, though how far they contribute to the pleasure of residents is a matter of doubt. Blackpool, which was not many years ago a little village, so called from a peaty brook, now converted into the main sewer, extends from South Shore to Claremont, a distance of more than 2 m. in an uninterrupted line. Its situation is fine, the low sandy shore which prevails at Lytham gradually giving place to cliffs some 60 or 70 feet high. The houses thus gain a fine sea view over the Irish Sea and the entrance to Morecambe Bay, while the air is of the freshest and sometimes of the roughest. When the weather is tolerably clear, the Fells of Westmoreland and Cumberland, the mountains of Wales, and even the Isle of Man, are plainly visible. The amusements of Blackpool are *en règle* with those of watering-places generally, the principal and most fashionable promenade being the Pier, which is 1400 feet long, and forms quite an establishment of itself. It is constructed of iron piles, placed in clusters and trussed together, such a mode being found to answer best where the situation is exposed, as in this case. In rough weather it is a fine sight

to see the showers of spray dashing over it. *Fox Hall*, now a public-house, at South Shore, occupies the site of an old house built by Sir Thomas Tyldesley, which afterwards became a great place for the concealment of priests. With the exception of the cliffs, along which there is a pleasant breezy walk for miles, there is but little of interest in the interior. *Marion Mere*, 2½ m. inland, is the subject of a tradition that it was haunted by a mermaid. The geologist will find in the cliffs at the *Gynn*, 1½ m. N. of Blackpool, a marine deposit containing a number of shells. Great encroachments have been made by the sea on this coast, and about 1 m. from land, at very low tides, may be seen just rising from the waves a rock known as the *Penny Stone* (opposite Norbrock, 2 m. N.), from a tradition that travellers used formerly to tie their horses to it, when they alighted to get a penny pot of ale at the public-house close by. The local saying is—

"Penny stood, Carling fled, and Red Bank ran away."

The walk may be extended hence to 5 m. *Cleveleys*, where are an inn and a few cottages tenanted by bathers in summer. 1½ m. beyond that again is *Rossall Hall*, once the seat of Sir Peter Fleetwood, but now converted into a famous north country school, where some 400 or 500 boys are educated on the same basis as at the public schools. The school buildings, though in a very exposed situation, are extensive and commodious, and the chapel is exceedingly handsome. It contains some stained glass by *Hardman*, a reredos of alabaster, and an organ by *Willis*. During the reign of Elizabeth, Rossall was the residence of the Allen family, noted Catholics, one of whom, Dr. William Allen, 1532, rose to the dignity of a cardinal and archbishop, and was the defender of

Sir William Stanley's treachery in the surrendering the town of Deventer to the Spaniards. Of the Fleetwood family was Dr. William Fleetwood, Bishop of St. Asaph and Ely (d. 1723).

From Poulton the rly. is carried over a desolate region alongside of and across a portion of the estuary of the Wyre, a vast expanse of peaty, mud-covered surface, which at low water is depressing enough to traverse—

"That Wyre, when once she knew how well
these floods had sped,
When their reports abroad in every place
was spread,
It vex'd her very heart their eminence to
see,
Their equal at the least, who thought herself
to be.
She in her crooked course to seaward
softly slides
Where Pellin's mighty mosse and Merton's
on her sides
Their boggy breasts outlay."

The Wyre, like several other Lancashire streams, was formerly noted for its pearl *mussels*, "called by the inhabitants Haubleton Hookins, from their manner of taking them, which is done by their plucking them from their skeers or beds with hooks."—*Dr. Leigh*.

The chimneys of Rossall are seen on the l. by the seashore. The terminus is reached at 20 m. *Fleetwood* (*Inns*: Royal, Crown, Queen's), a place which owes its entire existence to the owner of the soil, Sir P. Heaketh Fleetwood, who, seeing its capabilities as a port, built docks and quays, and laid out the plan of a considerable town, where, as recently as 1836, was nothing but a rabbit warren. As a watering place it is tolerably well patronized in the summer, though its principal prosperity depends on the line of steamers which daily run to Belfast, and in the summer time from Fleetwood to Piel, on the opposite coast of Furness. A large iron wharf was placed here by *Stephenson*, made of iron piles,

faced with iron plates, and driven 17 ft. below low-water mark. Fleetwood is the head-quarters of a Government School of Musketry which infuses a little life into what would be otherwise an exceedingly dull residence. Inland there is not much to encourage the visitor, but seaward the views over Morecambe Bay and the Fells of Furness are exceedingly fine. On the opposite coast of the Wyre estuary is the village of *Preesal*, occupying the only bit of rising ground for a considerable distance. Near it is *Parroz Hall* (D. H. Elletson, Esq.), and lower down is *Stalmine* (C. Bourne, Esq.).

About 1 m. from Stalmine is *Pilling Moss*, of 2 or 3 acres in extent, and the most extraordinary breeding ground for sea-gulls in the kingdom. The nests in the season average from 10,000 to 12,000, and are frequently so close together that it is almost impossible to set the foot down between them. They formerly bred on Walney Island, but being disturbed there, they migrated hither, and are preserved by the owners of the property in accordance with the Sea Birds Preservation Act. The gulls are of the variety known as *Larus ridibundus*, though there is a colony of a different species (*Larus catuus*) a few miles off. "As inexhaustible as Pilling Moss" was an old local saying, now obsolete, as it has been nearly all (several 1000 acres) reclaimed. *Pilling Hall* was an old grange belonging to Cocker-sand Abbey.

ROUTE 42.

FROM PRESTON TO KENDAL BY LANCASTER.

This route is performed by the main line of the London and North-Western Rly. to Carlisle and Scotland, running through a pretty country that skirts the base of the Bleasdale Fells, although they do not enter much into the composition of the landscape.

On rt. the cattle-market and the barracks of Fullwood are passed on the way to

5 m. *Broughton Stat.* 1 m. to the rt. is Broughton Tower, the old residence of the Singleton family, and now a farmhouse. The *ch.* is aisled, the N. arch being called the Barton Chapel, after its founder, Thomas Barton, while the S. aisle is the Singleton Chapel.

A little further on rt. is *Barton Hall* (C. R. Jacson, Esq.). "The original seat, called Barton Old Hall, was a brick edifice, erected in the time of Henry VIII., with two gables in front, a projecting wing, and mullion windows."

At $7\frac{1}{2}$ m. *Brock Stat.*, the river Brock is crossed, and the Lancashire Canal runs parallel with the rly. to Garstang. On l. are *Myerscough Hall* (Major Cunliffe) and *House* (J. Cunliffe, Esq.). *Myerscough Lodge*, now a farmhouse, was, at the time of the Civil War, the seat of the Tyldesleys, "a family unanimously and invariably Royalist, which furnished the ablest soldier who fought for the King in Lancashire, and probably the most active, resolute, and uncompromising partisan. If Lord Strange was the head of the King's forces in Lancashire, Sir

Thomas Tyldesley was the right hand, or rather their heart and soul and living power. A soldier by temperament as well as profession, early trained in the wars of the Low Countries, brave, proud, generous, enthusiastically loyal, he raised and equipped troops at the expense of his family, and commanded them at the battle of Edge Hill. With indomitable zeal and courage he served at the sieges of Bolton and Lancaster. After the execution of the King, he rallied the Royalists in support of the cause of Prince Charles, and persevered amidst many discouragements, until, fighting at the head of his soldiers in the battle of Wigan Lane, he was shot by one of Lilburn's Roundheads."—*Halley*. Myerscough is mentioned by some as the house in which the petition was presented in favour of the 'Book of Sports' to King James, when making his grand progress to Hoghton Tower. Charles II. also stopped here on his road from Preston southwards. In the interior are an oak staircase and chimney-piece, carved in panels.

About 8 m. rt. of Brock is *Goosnargh*, where there is a hospital, founded in 1735 by Dr. William Bushell, for decayed gentry of the townships of Preston, Euxton, Whittingham, Goosnargh, Fulwood, and Elston. The house, which is like any other gentleman's house, contains 30 inmates. A very curious document is in existence, called the Book of the Twenty-four, or the Church-book of Goosnargh, which gives much interesting information as to the parochial life of the day. At the head of the Brock, or the Bleasdale Fells, is *Bleasdale Tower* (W. J. Garnett, Esq.), and close by is the North Lancashire Reformatory School, the boys of which are occupied in reclaiming the moor.

9½ m. *Garstang Stat.* On rt. is *Claughton Hall*, the seat of T. H.

Brockholes, Esq. The town of *Garstang* (*Inns*: Eagle and Child, Royal Oak) is situated about 1½ m. to the l., on the rt. bank of the River Wyre, and although now an unimportant little place, it was brisk and thriving enough in the old coaching days. It was sufficiently important, moreover, to obtain a charter from Edward II., which was subsequently confirmed by Charles II., who granted additional privileges. Some cotton weaving and spinning mills give employment to the population. There is but little to see in the place except a fine bridge over the Wyre and the aqueduct which carries the Lancaster Canal across it. The former was built in lieu of an old one, erected by the Earl of Derby to maintain communication with Greenhaigh Castle. A curious notice of Garstang cattle-market is preserved in some doggrel Latin verses by Drunken Barnaby:—

"Veni Garstang, ubi nata,
Sunt armenta fronte lata.
Veni Garstang, ubi male
Intrans Forum Bestiale,
Forte vacillando vico
Huc et illuc cum amico,
In Iuvence dorsum rui
Cujus cornu læsus fui."

The *parish ch.*, curiously enough, is situated at least 1½ m. S. of the town, not far from the confluence of the Calder with the Wyre, and its place in Garstang is supplied by a chapel of ease of modern erection. The *old ch.* (restored in 1868) consists of nave, aisles, and clerestory, chancel, tower, and chapel in the S. aisle. The E. window, of 5 lights, is remarkably good, and the W. windows of the aisles are also worth notice. The chancel contains some good carved oak stalls and a screen, shutting off the N. chancel-aisle, in which is placed the organ. The S. or Lady Chapel has a piscina and an oak roof, the beams of which have several Latin inscriptions. The S. chancel-aisle was the burying-place of the

Butlers and the Banasters, and that of the N. of the Butlers of Kirkland, to one of whom there is a marble altar-tomb. There is also the effigy of a priest, in bad preservation. Lonsdale, the artist, was a native of this town.

1½ m. N.W. of Garstang are *Nateby Hall* and *Bowers*, both farmhouses. The latter contains a curious "priest-hole," approached by winding stairs. Lower down the Wyre, at its junction with Brock, is the village of *St. Michael's-on-Wyre*, the ch. of which contains a chapel to the Butler family, now extinct. It formerly contained the effigy of St. Catherine, the patron saint, which used to be brought out during hay-making time. *St. Michael's Hall*, an antique farmhouse, was the seat of the Kirkleys and Longworths, old Fylde families. Still lower down the river is *Rawcliffe Hall*, a seat of the Wilson-France family, and *Out-Rawcliffe*, an old 17th-centy. mansion, modernised. Between the ch. and the town is *Kirkland Hall*, the old seat of the Butlers. The rly. crosses the Calder at the Garstang Stat., at a considerable elevation, and amidst very pretty scenery on both sides. Between the line and Garstang town are the scanty ruins of *Greenhaigh Castle*, which, according to Camden, "was built by Thomas Stanley, the first Earl of Derby of that family, while he was under apprehension of danger from certain of the nobility outlawed in this county, whose estates had been given him by Henry VII., for they made several attempts upon him, frequently making inroads into his grounds, till at last these feuds were wisely quieted by the moderation of this excellent person." Later on, in the Civil War, Greenhaigh became an important situation, being garrisoned for the King by Anderton of Euxton. But at his death, the garrison being dispirited, surrendered the castle, and it was

demolished by order of the Parliament in 1649.

Near *Scorton Stat.*, 12¼ m., the fells approach the rly., which here crosses the Wyre, on its way from its source in Wyresdale Fells—

"Arising but a rill at first from Wyresdale's lap,
Yet still receiving all her strength from her full mother's pap,
As down to seaward she her serious course doth ply,
Takes Calder coming in, to beare her company."

16 m. *Bay Horse Stat.* On l. are *Clifton Hall* (W. Margerison, Esq.), *Ellel Grange* (W. Preston, Esq.), and *Haycarr* (T. Lamb, Esq.); and 2 m. rt., overlooking the *Wyre*, is *Wyreside* (H. Garnett, Esq.).

At 17¼ m. *Galgate Stat.* the river Conder is crossed—

"To Neptune lowling low, the chrystall
Lon doth cease,
And Conder comming in, conducts her by the hand,
And lastly shee salutes the poynt of Sunder-land."—*Drayton.*

On l. are *Ellel Hall* (W. Ford, Esq.), and *Ashton Hall*, the beautiful seat of N. Le Gendre Starkie, Esq., which was formerly in the possession of the Dukes of Hamilton, through the marriage of James, Earl of Arran, with the heiress of Digby, Lord Gerard, in the reign of James II. It is of the date of the 15th and 16th cents, and has a large square tower at one end with turrets, battlements, and machicolations. The interior contains a splendid baronial hall. Ashton is beautifully situated in an extensive park overlooking the mouth of the Lune and the Bay of Morecambe. At the point where the estuary of the Lune begins to narrow are the docks of *Glasson*, intended to serve as the port of Lancaster. There are two docks, one of which is 12 acres in extent, and will receive vessels of 400 tons. They communicate with the Lan-

caster Canal by a short branch which joins it at Galgate.

Nearly opposite Glasson, on the W. shore of the Lune estuary, is *Overton*, the inhabitants of which petitioned that, as they were surrounded by the sea twice in 24 hours, they might have a minister of their own, instead of being obliged to go to Heysham, or the parson being obliged to come from there. The *ch.* has a Norm. doorway of 3 semi-circular arches, with zigzag moulding. At the end of the neck of land on which Overton is situated is *Sunderland*, used as a bathing-place by the Lancastrians. "Sambo's Grave," where a wrecked negro was buried, has been levelled and done away with, owing to injury caused to the land by visitors.

2 m. S. of Glasson, on the peninsula formed by the mouths of the Lune and the Cocker, is the ruin of *Cockersand Abbey*—

"Where Coker, a shy nymph that clerely seems to shun

All popular applause, who from her chrysalis head

In Wyresdale, near where Wyre is by her fountain fed."

It at one time was of such importance as to be reckoned the third in dignity of the Lancashire monasteries, and covered an acre of land. The remains chiefly consist of the octagonal chapter-house, used as the burial-place of the Daltons. A finely clustered column rises from the centre to support the roof. An amusing story is told by Fox of Cockersand Church, in the time of Queen Mary. The parishioners, wishing to renew their rood, which had been decayed, bargained with the carpenter to make a new one, and when it was finished they refused payment, because it was not like the old one, which "was a well-favoured man," but, instead, "was the worst-favoured man they had ever set eyes on, gaping and grinning in such sort that their

children were afraid to look him in the face or go near him." Whereupon the carpenter summoned the Churchwardens before the Mayor of Lancaster, who decided that he was entitled to payment, as having done the best he could; and if the parishioners "did not like their god they could put a pair of horns upon him and he would make a capital devil." At the period of the Dissolution, the lands of Cockersand fell into the possession of the Daltons, of *Thurnham*, one of the most powerful of the hundred of Lonsdale families, whose ancient seat of Thurnham is on the l. During the Civil War, Thomas Dalton raised and equipped a regiment of cavalry for the king, at the head of which he marched southwards, and died, fighting bravely, at Newbury. Thurnham (Miss Dalton) is a fine castellated building, and close by it is a very handsome Roman Catholic chapel, with a lofty spire.

The rly. now passes l. *Aldcliffe Park* (E. Dawson, Esq.), the grounds of which are remarkable for an extraordinarily long embankment of 2000 yards, by which 160 acres were reclaimed from the sea. For this work Mr. Dawson received the Gold Medal of the Society of Arts in 1820. On the rt. is *Ripley's Hospital*, immediately after which the train glides under the old castle walls of

21½ m. LANCASTER JUNC. with the Midland Rly. to Settle, Ingleton, and Leeds.

Lancaster (Hotels: the King's Arms, old-fashioned and comfortable, is chronicled in one of Dickens's stories; Queen's; Commercial) was a Roman station, and possessed a camp on the lofty site of its present *Castle* in the 1st centy. The mound on which it stands is supposed to be partly artificial. From the appearance of the foundations, it seems that 2 round towers, distant from

each other about 90 paces, were connected by open galleries.

The view from the Castle is one of great beauty; in front is the fine expanse of Morecambe Bay, with Morecambe town on its shores, the mountains of the Furness district and Westmorland, and to the l. the Lune winding through fertile meadows and a rich variegated country.

"After came the stony, shallow Lune,
That to old Lancaster its name doth lend."
Spenser.

Camden says :—"The river Loan or Lune sees Lancaster on its S. bank, the chief town of the county. The Scots call it Lancaster, from the river near which it is built. From the name of the river, the designation of the place seems to have been the ancient Longovicium, when under a Roman lieutenant, a cohort of the Longovica, which took its name from that place, was posted." Many Roman remains have been found at various times, and Lancaster is considered by many antiquaries to be identical with Bremetonacis. In 1772 an altar was dug up, dedicated to the Di Mandes by L. Julius Apollinaris. A sepulchre with remains was revealed in excavating a cellar in Church-st., and a hypocaust, at Quernmore. Several *milliaria*, or Roman mile-stones, formerly existed on the road to Over Barrow; and between Lancaster and Cocksand, a number of sculptured heads and figures were turned up. "Traces of the old earth-mounds are still visible in the field to the N.W. of the footpath from the ch. to the quarry, though the remains of the wall have entirely disappeared. But, following the line which this fosse must have taken in encircling the hill towards the E., the wall is again found in a garden—a huge overhanging mass, exactly answering to Stukeley's description, and of a character unmistake-

ably Roman." Lancaster was bestowed by William the Conqueror on Roger of Poitou, who built or added to the castle in 1094; and it became the capital of a Norman noble, who was further enfeoffed by William of 398 English manors and of the whole county of Lancashire. The city early acquired extensive privileges, among which were an assize of bread, a pillory, and a gallows. In the reign of Edward III. Lancashire was raised to the dignity of a Palatinate, and its capital became the residence of John of Gaunt, "time-honoured Lancaster," the 3rd son of Edward III., who created him Duke of Lancaster. Edward granted it a charter in 1363, and John of Gaunt built the magnificent gateway of the castle and also the tower, which is called by his name. The castle was for many years his residence, and over the gateway is an effigy of him, sculptured by a Scotch mason of the name of Nimmo. The appearance of the castle from the rly. is not very imposing, little of it being visible, except the modern assize-courts. It should be viewed from the E. side, where its grand proportions are very conspicuous. The terrace-walk, a stone pavement carried nearly round the castle-walls, forms a pleasant promenade with a glorious view. Outside the castle, and near the ch.-yard, is a spot called the "Hanging Corner," where the gallows are still erected for executions. One of the 4 chaplains of the gaol is said to have attended no less than 170 criminals to the scaffold. The great tower is flanked by 2 octagonal turrets, 66 ft. high, surrounded by watch towers. This is, perhaps, the finest part of the building. There are altogether 5 towers—the Gateway Tower, the Lungess Tower, or Great Norman Keep, at the top of which is a turret called John of Gaunt's Chair; the Dungeon Tower, a small square tower on the S. side; Adrian's

Tower, and the Well Tower; the last 3 of which are supposed to have been built on Roman foundations. The Gateway Tower contains 3 rooms: the Constable's-room, the Smugglers'-room, and the "Pin-box," in which Henry IV. is said to have given audience to the King of Scotland and the ambassadors of France. On entering the quadrangle, the modern character of the greater part of the building is apparent. There are the assize-courts, gaol, and apartments for the officers. The walls of the great tower or keep are 10 ft. thick, and of immense strength. The interior is occupied by the prison chapel. The assize-courts, which were opened in 1796, are spacious and handsome; but, since the division of the county and the consequent transfer of the greater portion of its legal business to Liverpool, the assizes, which formerly occupied a fortnight or 3 weeks, now seldom extend beyond 2 days.

In the Crown Court the Judge's Chair is surmounted by some richly-carved woodwork, and by a large painting of George III. on horseback, by *Northcote*. At the back of the dock in this court is to be seen the "holdfast," into which were put the left hands of criminals who had been sentenced to be burned in the hand, the punishment being inflicted in open court. The *Nisi Prius* Court is a larger and more imposing structure, the ceiling being of open stonework, supported by elegant clustered columns. The 2 pictures were presented by the late Sir Robert Peel—one of Colonel Stanley, the other of John Blackburne, Esq., former representatives of Lancaster in Parliament. The castle was besieged and taken by Cromwell, and on the S.W. side of the town may be seen remains of the trenches, and of the batteries for breaching the walls. In 1745 the Pretender entered Lancaster at the head of his Highlanders, marching on foot to encourage his followers.

St. Mary's Ch. on the summit of the hill (restored by *Paley*) was built on the site of a Benedictine priory, for the most part of the date of the 15th centy. Some portion of it, however, is as early as the 13th centy. The aisles are divided from the body of the ch. by 8 Pointed arches, the capitals of the supporting pillars being richly sculptured with foliage. There are some good wood carvings in the chancel, said to have been brought from Cocksand Abbey, but more likely from Furness. The tower was rebuilt in 1759. There is a *brass* to the memory of Thomas Cowell in his aldermanic robes, with an inscription, a curious literary composition. The E. window is of stained glass, representing the Crucifixion and Ascension, and the N. aisle contains some memorial windows, amongst others to Dr. Whewell and Dr. Higgin, Bishop of Derry. Amongst the monuments is one, by *Roubilliac*, to William Stafford, LL.D.; and another to the memory of Sir Samuel Eyre, one of the judges of the Court of King's Bench, in the reign of William III.

A very rare cross, with an Anglo-Saxon Runic inscription, was dug up in the churchyard; making the 5th of that character known in Great Britain. It is now in the British Museum.

Christ Church was erected and endowed by Samuel Gregson, Esq., one of the members of the town, and was opened in 1859. It is in the E. E. style, of which it is a good specimen.

St. Peter's Roman Catholic ch. in the East Road, is a fine building erected in 1859, from designs by *Paley*, at a cost of 15,000*l.* The style is Geom. Goth., which prevailed in England early in the 14th centy. The groined ceiling of the chancel is magnificently decorated with gold and colours. The high altar and the Lady Chapel altar are composed

of various coloured marbles. The 3 E. windows are of stained glass, the centre one representing the Ascension—the 1. St. Peter standing in the Gateway of Heaven, and receiving the keys—that on the rt. St. Paul caught up to the third Heaven, and his Conversion on the way to Damascus. The tower and spire are 240 ft. in height.

On the hill above it is the *Grammar School*, an Elizabethan modern building, over the door of which is a statuette of Her Majesty as Duchess of Lancaster. Here were educated Dr. Whewell and Professor Owen, both natives of the town. The visitor should ascend to the top of the hill for the sake of the *view*, which is superb—on the one side over Morecambe and Westmoreland, on the other, overlooking Lancaster Moor and the Bleasdale Fells. At the back is the *Lunatic Asylum*, a very fine and commodious establishment, built to hold over 1000 patients. The *Town Hall* contains portraits of Geo. III., the Duke of York, Mr. Pitt, and Lord Nelson.

The other public buildings are not important. The monastic looking structure, which forms a prominent object on approaching the city and close to the rly. on rt., is *Ripley's Hospital* for orphans, erected by the widow of Thomas Ripley, Esq., a native of Lancaster and a Liverpool merchant, who had devoted 100,000*l.* for the purpose. It is a noble building of the Early Pointed style of the 12th centy., and is intended for the education of 150 boys and 150 girls. The clock-tower in the centre is 110 ft. in height. The *Royal Albert Asylum* is for the education and maintenance of idiots belonging to the Northern counties.

At Horseshoe Corner, in the town, is a horseshoe fixed in the pavement, which is renewed at certain intervals. The custom is supposed to have originated in the time of John of Gaunt, who once rode into [*Shropshire, &c.*]

the town upon a charger which lost its shoe at this place. It was taken up and fixed in the middle of the street, and a new one has been regularly placed there every 7th year at the expense of the townsmen who reside near the spot. The Town Hall is a heavy edifice, built of freestone, and contains a few portraits. As a seaport, Lancaster was once of greater importance than Liverpool, and carried on a considerable trade with the West Indies, Archangel, and the Baltic; but the close of the last centy. saw a great change for the worse. When Charles I. levied ship-money Lancaster was assessed at 30*l.*, Liverpool at 25*l.*, and Preston at 20*l.*, for fitting out a ship of 400 tons. The population is stationary, owing to its diminished importance as a manufacturing town—silk thread, linen thread, and sail-cloth, railway, waggon-making and shipbuilding, being the main sources of trade. The Lune Shipbuilding Company is a modern undertaking, and turns out iron vessels of 1400 tons. The quiet streets present a great contrast to the stir and bustle of most of the other Lancashire towns. Stagnation is very conspicuous, and the ill-lighted, worse-paved, streets, with the grey sombre tint of the houses, give the visitor an impression of melancholy dulness. Lancaster, however, stands high in sanitary improvements, and particularly in that of water supply, which is brought from Littledale Fell, a distance of 7 miles, and is of very pure character. It first sent representatives to Parliament in 1293, but ceased in 1359; resumed its privileges in 1547, and continued them until 1868, when by the new Reform Act it was disfranchised for general and habitual corruption.

Rail from Lancaster, by London and North-Western, to Preston, 21½ m.; Warrington, 48½ m.; London, 231 m.; Carnforth, 7½ m.; Kendal,

21 m.; Carlisle, 68½ m.; Windermere, 29 m. By *Furness Rly.* to Grange, 15½ m.; Ulverston, 25 m.; Furness Abbey, 32½ m.; Dalton, 29½ m.; Barrow, 35 m. By *Midland*, to Morecambe, 4 m.; Hornby, 9 m.; Settle, 39 m.; Leeds, 65½ m.

Excursions to Quernmore Park, 4 m. (Rte. 43); Morecambe and Heysham, 5 m. (Rte. 43); Thurnham and Glasson Docks (from Galgate Stat.); over the Fells to the head of Wyresdale and the Trough of Bolland, 11 m.; Whitewell, 16½ m.; Clitheroe (Rte. 32), 25½ m.

From the Castle Stat. the train glides over the Lune and the Midland Rly., having a fine view on rt. up the river towards Halton and Caton, with the aqueduct of the Lancaster and Kendal canal.

At 3 m. **HEST BANK JUNC.**, a short branch comes in from Morecambe, or rather Poulton (Rte. 43). The line here passes close to the shores of the bay, which at low water presents an enormous expanse of sand. Up to the time of the opening of the Furness rly. in 1857 a coach, called the *Over Sands* coach, daily plied from Lancaster *via* Hestbank to Ulverston (see Rte. 44).

4 m. *Bolton-le-Sands Stat.* The village on rt. is a favourite residence with visitors who seek great quiet and beautiful air. The *ch.* consists of nave, side aisle, chancel, and fine old tower, and contains some modern stained glass. 2 m. S. of Bolton is a curious cavern called *Dunald Mill Hole*, in the township of Nether Kellet. A brook falls in, with several cascades, and emerges again at Carnforth. Its underground course is about 2½ m., during which it reappears once at *Gingle Pot Hole* near Over Kellet.

7½ m. **CARNFORTH JUNCT.** At this

spot a considerable population has arisen, brought together by the erection of the Carnforth furnaces for the smelting of Lancashire hæmatite ore. Their locality was, of course, determined by the meeting of several rlys., viz., the London and North-Western to north and south, the Midland Rly. from Carnforth to Wennington and Leeds, and the Furness Rly. to Ulverston and Barrow (Rte. 44). A considerable portion of the township has been at various times washed away by the tide. On the rt., 2 m., is the village of *Over Kellet*, adjoining which are *Hall Garth* (late Rev. Dr. Ainslie), and *Capernwray Hall* (G. Marton, Esq.). The Old Hall is now a farmhouse. The Martons claim as their ancestor Paganus de Marton, Lord of East and West Marton in Craven. In the Park, which overlooks the charming scenery of the Keer, is a private chapel.

Leaving Carnforth, on l. is the village of *Warton*, situated under the limestone hills of *Warton Crag*, a spot on which, called the *Bride's Chair*, used to be frequented by young women before the ceremony of matrimony. *The Three Breeders*, or *Bredors*, are three rocking stones about 40 ft. apart. There are also earthworks on the N. side of *Warton Crag*, and a cave, supposed in old times to have been the resort of fairies. The *ch.* is of the date of the 14th and 15th centy., and contains some sedilia and an early Norm. or Saxon font lined with leadwork inside. The rectory adjoining the *ch.* is incorporated with the buildings of the ancient one of the time of Henry VIII., of which a gable and some arches remain. There is a grammar school in *Warton*, founded by Matthew Hutton, successively Bishop of Coventry, Durham, and Archbishop of York in 1594. In the township were born Sir Thomas Kytson, a rich merchant in the

reign of Henry VIII., and Lucas the historian of the parish. Further on (L.) is *Hyning* (W. B. Bolden, Esq.), and the village of *Yealand Conyers*, at the back of which are *Morecambe Lodge* (C. D. Ford, Esq.), and *Leighton Hall*, the seat of R. T. Gillow, Esq. In early times it was held by Adam de Avranches, whose heiress married Adam de Redman of Yealand in the reign of Edward I.

At *Burton-in-Kendal Stat.* 11½ m., the rly. enters the county of Westmoreland.

14½ m. *Milnthorpe Stat.*

19 m. OXENHOLME JUNCT. for Kendal (*Handbook for the Lakes*).

ROUTE 43.

FROM MORECAMBE TO CARNFORTH JUNCTION BY WENNINGTON.

(*Midland Railway*.)

By means of this section of the Midland system, Lancashire is brought into direct communication with the manufacturing towns of Yorkshire, and a large and picturesque agricultural district in North Lancashire and North-West Yorkshire is opened up.

For those who like a quiet watering place, *Morecambe*, properly called *Poulton-in-the-Sands*, is to be recommended, although it has,

like Blackpool, its occasional avalanches of excursionists. It commands exceedingly beautiful views over the Bay, and an unfailing supply of fresh sea-breeze. (*Hotels*: North-Western, King's Arms, West View.) A line of steamers formerly ran between Morecambe and Belfast, but has been discontinued. There is a very charming walk along the shore to *Heysham*, 2½ m., a most picturesque little village situated on a wooded rocky promontory, which, compared with the flat and level country round it, looks higher than it really is. Enormous quantities of mussels and herrings are caught in the fisheries adjoining. Enclosed within the carefully kept churchyard are the minute church, the remains of the oratory of Heysham, and a number of stone coffins, for the inspection of which visitors are requested to obtain a sixpenny ticket at the clerk's house near the gate. This money goes to the restoration fund, and the general expenses of taking care of the ruins, although it is doubtful how far the right extends of charging a fee for entering the churchyard. The Norm. ch. of *St. Patrick*, which was restored in 1866, is of very small dimensions, and consists of nave, with a double aisle, chancel, and north porch. The W. window is of stained glass, and by the altar is a *brass* of the date 1670, and an old tomb in the N. aisle. "The nave occupies the area of an ancient Saxon ch. Traces of this building are discernible in the remains of a W. doorway, and in the chancel arch with its curious cabled impost mouldings, and in building the new N. aisle a doorway and wall, of undoubted Saxon architecture, were discovered."

The Oratory, which has been dignified with the name of *Abbey*, was only 24 ft. in length and 7½ in breadth, and is said to

have been erected for the accommodation of the monks, whose duty it was to pray for mariners; it obtained such a reputation for sanctity, that burial within the precincts was greatly sought after. The remains consist of an arch of Saxon date, and rock tombs or stone coffins. Heysham is rather a favourite resort in summer time. Adjoining the village are Heysham Hall and Heysham Tower.

From Morecambe a short branch of 2 m. runs up to Heat Bank, to join the London and North-Western.

The Midland Rly. to Lancaster runs underneath the latter, and by the side of the river, which it crosses to the *Green Area Stat.*, at Lancaster, where a branch runs in from the Castle stat. It then proceeds up the rt. bank of the river, crossing under the aqueduct of the Lancaster and Kendal canal to

2½ m. *Halton Stat.* The village, with its pretty church stands on the l., embowered in trees, as are also the Rectory (Rev. Dr. Mackreth), *Halton Hall* (Major Whittle), and *Beaumont Hall*. A Roman votive altar was discovered in the churchyard here, and a chased silver cup on Halton Moor. There still exists a Saxon cross, used as a sundial. The ch. contains a monument with the following dubious epitaph,—

"He was—but words are wanting to say what.

Think what a man should be; though an attorney, he was that."

On rt., 1½ m., is *Quernmore Park*, the seat of W. J. Garnett, Esq. The house is quadrangular, from designs by *Harrison*, and is beautifully situated in a considerable park, commanding a fine view up the vale of Lune towards Hornby. At the back are the Fells of Bleasdale, the forestal rights of which were acquired by Mr. Garnett by purchase from the Duchy of Lancaster. Quernmore itself was disforested

by Act of Parliament in 1811. "The name has, in all probability, been derived from the stone which is found here, called Hungerstone, full of hard, flinty pebbles, and similar to ancient Roman querns, whereof small millstones were formerly made. This conjecture seems to be confirmed by the discovery of several querns recently dug up in the neighbourhood."—*Burke*.

Permission is given to visit the Park, which contains much picturesque scenery, especially at one spot, called "The Knotts." The poet Gray, in a letter to Dr. Wharton, describes the view from Quernmore looking up towards Caton, saying that "every feature which constitutes a perfect landscape of the extensive sort is here not only boldly marked but also in its best position." Tickets are issued in Lancaster for entry into the park, and the money thus realised is given to the Dispensary.

Quernmore Church has been rebuilt in beautiful Dec. style, by the late Mr. Garnett, from designs by *Paley*.

A curious history is attached to the stained glass E. window, which was ordered for, and sent out to, the English church at Cannes. But the vessel in which it sailed foundered near Marseilles, and a new one was sent for to England. In the meantime a Greek merchant bought the wreck of the first vessel, picked it up, and found in it the window, none the worse for its submerging. It was then sold by auction at Marseilles, and bought by Mr. Garnett for his church at Quernmore.

The course of the rly. up the river side is very charming, smooth reaches alternating with rapids, the wooded banks in many places overhanging the water's edge—

"As Lon comes ambling on from Westmoreland, when first
Arising from her head, amongst the mountains nurst

By many a pretty spring, that howerly
getting strength,
Arriving in her course in Lancashire at
length,
To Lonsaile shows herself, and lovingly
doth play
With her dear daughter Dale."—*Drayton*.

After leaving Halton the line crosses and recrosses a bend of the Lune, within which is the *Hermitage* (J. Sharp, Esq.), to 4½ m. *Caton Stat.* The village is on rt., near the junction of the Artle Beck with the Lune and nestling under Litledale Fell. In 1803 some Roman antiquities were found here, including a pillar with an inscription to the Emperor Adrian and a milliarium.

On rt. are *Escowbeck Hall* (J. Grey, Esq.) and *Grassyard Hall* (J. Edmondson, Esq.). In the grounds of the latter is *Ravenscar Hill*, a favourite place for Lancaster picnics. On l. is *Halton Park* (T. H. Bateman, Esq.).

Pass rt. the village of *Cloughton*, where is the old *Hall*, the seat of the Croft family in the 15th centy. It possesses a gateway with oriel window of the time of Henry VII., and a terrace with two towers, of a later date—probably Charles I. The *ch.*, which is modern, contains the oldest dated bell in the kingdom (1296) with a Longobardic inscription.

9 m. *Hornby Stat.* Few villages are situated more prettily. The river Wenning, whose stream has just been increased by the joint waters of the Hyndburn and the Roeburn Dale, flows into the Lune a little to the W., while the wooded Park, and the noble turrets of Hornby Castle form a superb background. The Castle (J. Foster, Esq.) has an historic celebrity, and is believed by antiquaries to occupy the site of a Roman villa, as coins and ornaments have been found here in excavating. Nicholas Montbeggon, a protégé of Roger de Poitou, was

the first to perceive the value of the situation, and he accordingly erected a fortress here; which, after many changes of ownership by the De Burghs, the Nevills, and the Harringtons, at last came into the possession of Sir Edward Stanley, the fifth son of the first Earl of Derby, who for his prowess at the battle of Flodden Field was created Baron Monteagle by Henry VIII. He it was who built the present noble building, although it has undergone much restoration and alteration at the hands of the late owner, Mr. Pudsey Dawson. Sir Edward Stanley, however great was his renown as a warrior, was not held in such good reputation in other respects, for it was generally asserted that he was a freethinker and that he dabbled in the black art. People went so far as to say that he had obtained Hornby through a participation in the poisoning of Sir John Harrington, into whose family he had married. During the Civil War Hornby was garrisoned by the Royalists, and considered to be impregnable, being deemed from its situation inaccessible on three sides. Nevertheless, Col. Assheton, who commanded the Parliamentary forces, while making an apparent attack on the fourth side, detached a party, under the guidance of a deserter, who, climbing up the precipice, made an entry through one of the windows and captured the Castle, which was ordered by the Parliament to be "defaced, dismantled, and rendered defenceless." Of late years Hornby has passed by purchase to various owners. The oldest portion of the Castle is a large square tower or keep, the work of Edmund, 1st Lord Monteagle, on the north side of which is Sir E. Stanley's motto, "Glav et Gant"—sword and glove. The *church* is a singular-looking building, with an octagonal tower, set diagonally upon an octagonal base.

This, with the chancel, was built by Lord Monteagle, who is said to have been converted from his materialistic views by the parson of Slaidburn, Sir Hugh Parker. In the interior is a monument to Dr. Lingard, the historian, who was officiating minister at the Roman Catholic chapel here; and in the ch.-yd. is a monolith with rudely sculptured sides.

A farmhouse on the banks of the Lune marks the site of Hornby Priory, a subordinate establishment to Furness in the 16th centy.

10 m. *Wras Stat.* The village is on rt. at the confluence of the Hyndburn with the Roeburn Dale, about a mile above their junction with the Wenning. In the millstone grit in this locality there are some thin seams of coal—there is also a silkmill in the village.

At 12 m. *WENNINGTON JUNC.* the Midland branch from Carnforth falls in on the l., and the rly. directly afterwards enters Yorkshire.

[The tourist who is anxious to explore this remote corner of Lancashire should return by the Carnforth line. On leaving the junction is *Wennington Hall* (W. F. Saunders, Esq.).

2 m. *Melling Stat.* The ch., of Perp. date, consists of nave, chancel, aisles, porch, and a chantry called Morley Chapel. It contains an unusual number of stained glass windows, a hagioscope, and a mutilated slab supposed to mark the resting-place of Lord Monteagle, his wife and children. The altar is on a much higher level than the body of the ch., owing to situation of the building on sloping ground. On the l. is *Storrs Hall*. To the rt. is *Wrayton Hall* (J. G. Burrows, Esq.), very prettily situated on the l. bank of the Greta, a little above its junction with the Lune.

On the opposite bank is *Thurland Castle*, the ancient seat of North Burton, Esq., one of the few old moated houses of Lancashire. Ever since the Norman Conquest and the arrival of Roger de Poitou, a fortress existed at Thurland for the purpose of overawing the wild borderers. In the 16th centy. it was the residence of Sir Brian Tunstal, who fought at Flodden; and of the same family was Cuthbert Tunstal, Bishop of Durham, the only prelate who refused to acknowledge the Act of Supremacy put forth by Henry VIII. Previous to the Civil War the Tunstal family had suffered so much from fines and sequestrations that they were compelled to alienate most of their estates, and Thurland then came into the possession of Sir John Girlington, a staunch Catholic, who defended it on the Royalist side against the Parliamentary forces under Col. Assheton. But it soon surrendered, and the Puritans captured "much money and plate, with many disaffected ladies and gentlemen." Subsequently Sir John again took possession, on which Col. Rigby marched hither and ordered the place to be dismantled. The Castle was eventually rebuilt from designs by *Sir Jeffrey Wyatt*. At the back of the park is *Tunstal*, the ch. of which is of late Perp., and contains a mutilated effigy, believed to be that of Sir Thomas Tunstal, the builder of Thurland, and monuments to the family of Fenwick, whose seat of *Burrow Hall* (E. M. Fenwick, Esq.) is $1\frac{1}{2}$ m. N. on the l. bank of the Lune. The village of Burrow or *Over Burrow* shows traces of its having been a Roman encampment from its position, and from the tessellated pavements and coins found here at various times. It is considered by some antiquaries to be identical with Bremetonacis, though it is more likely that that station

was at Lancaster. Mr. Rauthmell, in 1746, discovered that on the eastern and southern sides the ramparts were quite visible, and he describes an altar dedicated to Magon by a Roman lady on the recovery of her health. To the E. of Over Burrow, at *Gargrove*, was a castrum æstivum, and on the side of the road to Lancaster a milliære or Roman milestone was found. 2½ m. further N. is *Kirkby Lonsdale*. (See *Hand-book for Westmoreland*.)

Crossing the Lune, the traveller reaches, 3 m., *Arkholme Stat*. In the village the inhabitants are principally engaged in the making of hampers. On l. is *Storrs Hall* (F. F. Pearson, Esq.), and further S. the village of *Gressingham*, the church of which contains a Norm. doorway. The line then passes *Capernwray*, the seat of G. Marton, Esq. (Rte. 42).

6 m. *Borwick Stat*. *Borwick Hall*, a house of the time of Charles I., with a "peel" attached to one end, was formerly the property of the De Borwicks, and then of the Bindlosses, whose arms are over the fireplace. A curious "priest-hole" is to be seen in one of the rooms, by which the fugitive suddenly disappeared on pressing the floor. Charles II. once stopped the night here, sharing the hospitality of Sir Robert Bindloss.

8¼ m. CARNFORTH JUNC. (Rte. 44).]

ROUTE 44.

FROM CARNFORTH TO BARROW BY
ULVERSTON AND FURNESS ABBEY.

The Furness district, formerly the boundary between the kingdoms of England and Scotland, is most conveniently approached from Lancaster by the Furness Rly., and the tourist to the Lakes is strongly recommended to visit this district first. The tract called Furness, mentioned in Domesday as Hougoun or the Hill, is bounded on the W. by the river Duddon, on the N. by Cumberland, on the E. by Westmoreland, and on the S. by the sea. The mountain of Black Combe is a noble termination to its S. boundary. "The tract called 'Furness Fell,'" says Camden, "is all mountains and high rocks, among which the ancient Britons lived, securely relying on those natural fastnesses, which, however, were not impregnable to the Saxon conqueror, for that the Britons lived here in the 228th year after the first arrival of the Saxons in the S. part of the island is proved by the curious historical fact, that a king of the Northumbrians gave to St. Cuthbert the land called Cartmel and *all the Britons on it*, as is related in his life. This district was long renowned for the wealthy and magnificent Abbey of Furness and its two dependent priories of Cartmel and Conishead."

Morecambe Bay, along the north shore of which the rly. to Ulverston is carried, receives the waters of the Lune, the Keer, the Winster, the Kent, and the Leven, and is environed by scenery of singular beauty. The irregular and indented shores are diversified by numerous vales, parks, woods sloping to the water's edge, interesting old towns, and picturesque villages. At low

water the sands form a plain of great extent, which in days previous to the rly. was traversed daily by travellers and even by a coach which ran between Lancaster and Ulverston, and was called the "Over-sands" coach. This old route began at *Hest Bank*, and the track was marked by branches of trees, called *brogs*, stuck in the sand. On reaching *Kent's Bank* the coach travelled for a few miles on the *Cartmel* shore, and then crossed the estuary of the *Leven* to *Ulverston*.

The construction of the rly. in 1857 across the bend of *Morecambe Bay*, for a distance of 8 m., partly on solid embankments, and partly on iron viaducts, is one of the most remarkable achievements of modern engineering science. The bay extends about 17 m. inland from its point of embouchure in the *Irish Channel*, and is of an average length of 10 m. Towards the bend of the bay the waters shoal very much, and an immense extent of sand and alluvial mud is left high and dry at low water. Many have been the hairbreadth escapes that occurred in the crossing. Nor did travellers always escape the perils of the journey. The registers of the parish of *Cartmel* show that not fewer than 100 persons have been buried in its ch.-yard, who were drowned in attempting to cross the sand. These are independent of similar burials in the ch.-yard in adjacent parishes on both sides the bay.

In the spring of 1857, a party of 10 or 12 young men and women proceeding to the hiring market at *Lancaster*, were overtaken by the advancing tide, and every one of them perished. The principal danger arises from the treacherous nature of the sands, and their constant shifting during the freshes which occurred in the rivers flowing into the bend of the bay. A guide was appointed by the Government at the noble salary of 12*l.* a year, whose

duty it was to be ready at low water to point out the track, and particularly where the river *Keer* runs in, the danger of the river being sufficiently illustrated by the old adage,

"The Kent and the Keer
Have parted many a good man and his
meear (mare)."

The first project of embanking the *Lancaster sands* was proposed by *Mr. Housman* at a cost of 200,000*l.*; but, though he had the encouragement of the *Duke of Bridgewater*, it came to nothing. Subsequently, in 1837, *Stephenson* recommended the construction of a rly. from *Poulton* to *Humphrey Head*, on the opposite coast, as part of a west coast line to *Scotland*.

He proposed to carry the road across the sand in a segment of a circle of 5 m. His design was to drive piles for the whole length, and form a solid fence of stone blocks on the land side of the piles, for the purpose of retaining the sand and silt brought down by the rivers from the interior. It was calculated that the value of the 40,000 acres of rich alluvial land thus reclaimed from the bay would have more than covered the cost of forming the embankment. But this scheme was not prosecuted, and a line was subsequently adopted, though in a greatly modified form, by the *Ulverston and Lancaster Rly. Co.*, at the suggestion of *Mr. Brogden*, a wealthy contractor, whose residence is now on *Holme Island, Grange*, close to the line of which he may be said to have been the projector. It was his wish to have taken it straight across the bay, somewhat after *Mr. Stephenson's* plan; but it was eventually determined to carry it nearer to the land across the estuaries of the rivers *Kent* and *Leven*.

The work, during its progress, was a daily encounter with difficulties, occurring at every ebb and flow of the tide, besides the constant wash-

ing of the embankment on the land side by the rivers flowing into the sea; and when to the flow of the tide was added the force of a south-westerly storm, the temporary havoc was calculated greatly to discourage the projectors of the undertaking.

The principal difficulties were encountered in crossing the channels of the Leven and Kent rivers. In making the trial borings nothing but sand was found to a depth of 30 ft. In one case the boring was carried 70 ft. down, and then there was nothing but sand. It was necessary, in the first place, to confine the channels of the rivers to a fixed bed, which was accomplished by means of weirs, most ingeniously constructed to counteract the effect of the eddies upon the line of the embankment or main weir. When the currents had been fixed, viaducts of 50 spans of 30 ft. each were thrown over the channels, and in each viaduct was placed a drawbridge, to permit the passing of sailing vessels. To protect the foundations of the piers of these viaducts, as well as the rly. embankments, weirs were also formed parallel with the current of the stream, which had the further effect of retaining the silt inland, and thus enabling large tracts of land to be reclaimed. This land behind the embankment of the Kent estuary is now under cultivation, where only a short time since fishermen were accustomed to ply their trade.

The chief difficulty which the engineer, Mr. Brunlees, had to encounter, was in finding a solid foundation amidst the shifting sands for the piers of the extensive viaducts across the mouths of the rivers. He finally overcame this by the use of iron disc piles, which he sunk to an average depth of 20 ft., by means of hydraulic pressure. The water being passed through a pipe down the interior of the pile, loosened the sands immediately beneath the disc, and allowed the pile to sink by its

own weight; after the pressure of water was withdrawn, the piles were driven down 2 in. further, by short blows from a heavy "tap," and up to the present time, though supporting a line upon which there is a very heavy traffic, they have given no signs of subsidence. The interior of the embankment is generally formed of sand, the slopes on the sea side being protected by layers of puddle, 12 in. thick, "quarry rid" 6 in. thick, and stone pitchings from 8 to 12 in. in thickness. On the landward side, the slopes of the embankment are protected by pitching or sods, according to position. The entire work must be regarded as a complete triumph of English engineering over that element which usually tests its highest skill.

The passenger for Ulverston or Furness has to change carriages at *Carnforth*, immediately after which a junction is formed with the Midland Rly. from Wennington, which places the hematite districts in direct communication with the Yorkshire ironworks, bringing back coal and coke to the Barrow works. Fine views are obtained very shortly of Morecambe Bay. The shelving shores of limestone, and the verdure of the woods present fine contrasts of colour, and the manner in which the white mountain limestone sometimes crops out on the tops of the bald hills gives them a very peculiar appearance, in some places as if they were covered with hoar-frost. The line crosses the Keer, and winds round Warton Crag to

3½ m. *Silverdale Stat.* (*Inns*: Britannia, Victoria). The village, prettily situated on the Morecambe Bay, 1½ m. from the station, is resorted to as a watering-place in the bathing season, though the lodging-houses are few. Large quantities of cockles and "flukes," i.e. flounders, are taken here, and sent to the nearest market towns. A ravine leading

past *Lindeth Tower* to the sea should be visited. The limestone crops out picturesquely, and forms escarpments, clothed with lichens, ferns, and other plants. Quiet, sea air, and pleasing scenery may be enjoyed here.

On the opposite hill side is *Leighton Hall* (R. Gillow, Esq.).

5½ m. *Arnside Stat.* *Arnside Knot* (522 feet) is on the l., with *Arnside Tower*, a square building, from which fine views of the bay, Peel Castle, and the estuary of the Kent are commanded. In former days it was a border stronghold; the walls are of great thickness, with small windows and numerous embrasures. The interior is a mere shell, but there are remains of a narrow staircase. The ruin is finely placed, with *Arnside Knot* on one side, and *Middlebarrow Wood* on the other. On rt. of the line is *Hazelslack*, or *Heslop Tower*, another old fortress, once used as a beacon. The district possesses much interest for the geologist and the botanist. The limestone formation is more displayed, and the hedgerows produce some rare ferns. The view from the larch-crowned *Arnside Knot* will well repay. In the valley to rt. of the rly. is a small lake called *Hoves Tarn*, said to contain immense quantities of pike, and remarkable for a thick bed of white minute univalve sea shells. The Kent is here crossed by a viaduct, from which the fine limestone crag of *Whitbarrow Scar* is seen to great advantage, on the rt. The rly. skirts the shore, of which 100 acres have been reclaimed from the sea by the embankment.

8 m. *Grange Stat.* The *Grange Hotel* is a first-rate establishment in a beautifully picturesque situation, and fitted up with great comfort. *Coaches* twice a day from the Stat. to *Newby Bridge*, at the foot of *Windermere Lake*, 8 m., to meet the

steamers from *Bowness* and *Amble-side* (Rte. 45). The village is situated on an estuary at the foot of *Yewbarrow*, and is sheltered by picturesque and lofty crags richly wooded. The scenery has made *Grange* a favourite resort, and the mildness of the air makes it a desirable winter residence. *Lindal Lane*, on the road to *Newby Bridge*, should be visited, together with *Yewbarrow*, the top of which presents phenomena of interest to the geologist, in the shape of large fissures or cracks. Near *Castle Head*, in the lower escarpment of rock on the S. side, the junction of the two formations of slate and limestone is very distinctly marked. *Hempsfell*, 3 m. from *Grange*, is worth the ascent. Picturesque masses of limestone crop out from the heathery waste, and their crevices are filled with beautiful ferns. The *Hospice* is a modern building, erected by an incumbent of *Cartmel* for the shelter of visitors. The interior of the tower is provided with stone seats and a fireplace, and there is a tablet with a poetical inscription. Most of the *Westmoreland* and *Cumberland* mountains are seen from *Hempsfell*, and the hills of *Yorkshire* in the distance to the E.

[*Cartmel*, 2 m. N.W. of *Grange*, is a small, quiet, and primitive old town, with a church, said to be the only conventual building in *Lancashire* that escaped mutilation after the dissolution of the monasteries. The priory was founded A.D. 1188, by *William Mareshall*, Earl of *Pembroke*, and dedicated to the *Virgin Mary*. It is one of the finest and most interesting specimens of ecclesiastical architecture in the district, and affords examples of almost every style, from *Trans. Norm.* down to *Late Eng.* *Cartmel* was never raised to the dignity of an abbey. The *Charter* declares that the Earl founded it "for the

increase of our holy religion, giving and granting to it every kind of liberty that heart can conceive, or the mouth utter." The priory was enriched by many subsequent benefactors. The Charter was confirmed by Edward III. Henry VIII. dissolved the priory, the establishment of which at that time consisted of 10 monks and 38 servants. In the original Articles of Survey for the Dissolution of Lancashire monasteries are the following:—"It'm, for y^e Church of Cartmell, being the Priorie and alsoe P^{sh} Church, whether to stand unplucked downe or not? Answer—Ord^d by M^r Chauncellor of the Duchie to stand still. It'm, for a suet of coepis (copes) claymd by y^e Inhabitants of Cartmell, to belong to y^e Church thereof—Ord^d that the P^ochians shall have them styll."—*Whitaker*. The ch.-tower is remarkable for its plan, the upper portion being set diagonally upon the lower. The interior of the ch. is a fine specimen of the E. Eng., and the centre is supported by large clustered pillars. The walls of the choir and the transept belong to the first erection, while the windows are of later date. The N.E. window is 40 feet high, and contains a little ancient stained glass. There are 2 fine Norm. doorways, of about the date 1188. The nave is of the 15th centy., and was plastered and whitewashed by the Puritans; but the greater portion of this disfigurement has now been removed, and the walls restored to their original state. For nearly 2 centys. the chancel was without a roof, and the fine oak stalls suffered accordingly. Their seats are 500 years old, with grotesque carvings, the work, doubtless, of the monks; but the upper portions are modern. Mr. Preston, a former owner of Holker Hall, commenced the restoration of the ch. in 1640, and erected the carved oak screen. There are 2

chapels; one called the Pyper choir, which has a groined stone roof, and the other, the Townchoir. The arches in the clerestory were walled up until 1859, when they were discovered by accident. The capitals of the pillars are of richly-sculptured foliage. On the N. side of the aisle is an altar-tomb of William de Walton, the first or second prior. There is a magnificent monument to Sir John Harrington and his wife (1305) recumbent beneath a fine fretwork arch, and decorated by numerous symbolical figures. The base is surmounted by grotesque images of chanting monks. The monument was brought from Gleaston Castle, and has suffered considerably either in its removal or from age. The elaborate decorations of the upper portion of the tomb represent some of the events of the Passion, such as the buffeting before Pilate, the Scourging, &c. A small chapel contains the tombs of many members of the Lowther family. In the vestry are some curious old books—a Bible, printed at Basle, in 1511; an edition of Thomas Aquinas, printed at Venice, 1506; and some other rare specimens of early typography. The interior has undergone a complete renovation: the plaster ceiling, which long disfigured the nave, has been removed, and woodwork substituted; the hideous galleries, which prevented the fine proportions of the building from being seen, have been taken down and swept away, and replaced by oak seats. There are some remains of the monastic buildings belonging to the Priory. Not far from the town is the *Holy Well* of Cartmel, a medicinal spring, which once attracted many visitors. Cartmel was the birthplace of Dr. Law, Bp. of Carlisle in the 18th centy., and a rather celebrated divine in his day.

Holme Island, opposite Grange,

has been converted into a tasteful domain, the property of John Brogden, Esq. The island is about 11 acres in extent, and a causeway connects it with the mainland. From Grange an excursion may be made to the promontory of *Humphrey Head*, 4 m., where tradition states that Sir John Harrington killed the last wolf in England. It commands a fine panorama, and at its base is a mineral spring, known as the *Holy Well*.

Between the Head and Kent's Bank is *Kirkhead Cavern*, which yielded, to Mr. Morris's exploration, bones both human and animal, axes, hammers, bone and bronze ornaments, and Roman coins, showing that there must have been a prolonged tenancy of the cave, and that it had not been disturbed for 1800 years or more.

On rt. of rly. is *Wraysholme Tower*, an old Border "peel" house of the Harringtons, whose arms, as well as those of the Stanley family, are still to be seen.

12 m. *Carl Stat.* On the rt. is *Holker Hall*, a seat of the Duke of Devonshire on the l. bank of the estuary of the *Leven*, and surrounded with noble woods. The park slopes gently to the water's edge, and is well stocked with deer. The mansion, with its collection of pictures and its exquisite gardens, is most liberally shown, even during the residence of the Duke. To the rt. of the house is a figure in freestone of Sir Geoffrey Hudson, the dwarf attached to the Court of Charles I., armed and holding an arquebus in his hand. The interior of Holker contains much carved oak furniture, and a series of fine landscapes, chiefly formed in the latter part of the last centy. by Sir William Lowther, which, together with the hall, passed by marriage into the possession of the Burlington family. Previous to its posses-

sion by the Lowthers, Holker was the property of the Prestons in the reign of Elizabeth.

In the *anteroom* are the two sons of the duke with a pony, *Lucas*; two spirited battle-pieces by *Bourguignon*; portrait of a man in a black dress, *Tintoretto*; portrait of Sir William Lowther, *Sir J. Reynolds*; Village Views, *Hobbema*; Landscapes with figures, *Wouwermans*.

In the *Drawing-room*—Two grand pictures by *Claude Lorraine*, one representing the *Repose in Egypt*, the figures thought to be by *Sassoferrato*; Landscape, *Rubens*; Sea-pieces by *H. Verel*; one representing a storm, the other a calm. Landscape by *G. Poussin*, a very fine composition. View of the *Piazetta*, *Canaletto*. St. Christopher baptized by the infant Christ on his shoulders, *Hans Memling*, but said to be *Albert Dürer*, "of marvellous power of colouring, the landscape truly luminous, and the execution of singular delicacy."—*W.* A landscape by *J. Ruysdael*, "remarkable for feeling, for mature and clever handling." A picture on wood by *Hobbema*, of the first class in composition, carefully as well as spiritedly executed. A sea-piece, warm and clear in tone, *W. Van de Velde*. Landscape with *Tobit* and the Angel, *C. Poelamburg*.

In the *Dining-room*—One of the largest pictures by *C. Lorraine*, the *Temple of the Muses*, of great grandeur and thoroughly careful execution; Portrait, *Vandyck*, said to be of himself; Pictures with horsemen, *Bourguignon*; Landscapes, *Zuocharelli*.

The library contains several portraits by Sir P. Lely, and portraits of Sir Thomas More, Sir I. Newton, and Hobbes the philosopher, who was tutor to one of the members of the Cavendish family; a picture by *Vandyck*, representing Charles I. from three different

points of view ; Daniel in the Lion's Den, by *Roland Savery*.

This room also contains a fine chimney-piece of about 1490, executed by the Lombardi family, whose workmanship so greatly contributed to the decoration of Venice. In the corridors is a series of historical portraits.

Carik Hall, the ancient seat of the Curwens, is an old mullioned house, with very thick walls of the 16th centy. *Bigland Hall*, to the N. of Carik, is another old house, the kitchen of which contains a singular inscription on the oak chimney-piece.

The fishing villages on the Cartmel coast are very primitive places, large quantities of shell-fish, flounders, and plaice, being taken by stake-nets in the bay. From the hamlet of Carik alone 1000 tons of cockles are sent in the course of the year to the various market towns of Lancashire. The "cocklers" belong to the poorest class; and although all are intent on the same pursuit, they are said never to quarrel, in consequence of a belief that if they did, the cockles would all leave the sands with the following tide. The cockles lie buried about an inch below the surface, and their place is known by two little holes or eyes in the sand; and they are jerked out into a basket by a three-pronged bent fork, called a "cram." An expert "cockler" will collect 16 quarts of cockles in an hour.

To the l. of Carik, off the shore, is *Chapel Island*, upon which the monks of Furness built an oratory, where prayers were daily offered for the safety of the people crossing the sands. An arch and some portions of the wall remain.

The shores of the Leven estuary here present a beautiful combination of limestone crags, hanging woods and grassy mounds, with the moors and mountains in the distance.

Passing on l. the sea entrance of the canal, the tourist reaches, 17½ m., the stat. of *Ulverston*, a brisk little market town, with a pop. of 6630. (*Inns*: Sun, Braddyll's Arms.)

On the rt., as the town is approached, is *Hoad Hill*, upon which has been erected a monument 100 ft. high in imitation of the Eddystone Lighthouse, to the memory of Sir John Barrow, for many years Secretary of the Admiralty and a native of this town. It was put up in 1850, and is of wrought limestone. The diameter of the interior is 19 ft.; a staircase leads to the top. On the l. are the woods of Conishead Priory. Ulverston is an old-fashioned town, the capital of the Furness district, and was granted, with a manor attached, to the Abbey of Furness, by King Stephen, A.D. 1217. Its name is supposed to have been derived from Ulphus, a Saxon noble, who extended his conquest to Furness. Its commercial status was considerably increased by the canal made in 1795, under the direction of Rennie, the celebrated engineer, which is capable of admitting ships of 400 tons burthen: though it must be confessed that Barrow has completely eclipsed Ulverston, and robbed it of nearly all its trade. The iron-mines in the neighbourhood, however, give Ulverston some importance; and it also possesses a few manufactures

The *Church* (St. Mary's), on an eminence overlooking the town, is a noble one, said to have been originally erected in 1111, partly rebuilt in the reign of Henry VIII., and again in 1804, and in 1866. The Norm. S. doorway is supposed to have been brought from Furness Abbey. It is a fine example, with a double recessed semicircular arch and a chevron moulding. A stone in the S. side of the tower bears the date 1164, which is believed to be that of the construction of the

original edifice; but this date evidently cannot belong to the tower, which is of Perp. style, and is supposed by antiquaries to have been a mistake of the mason, who mistook the 5 for a 1. Amongst the monuments is one to Sir John Barrow; an altar-tomb, with effigy in armour, of William Sandys, of Conishead, temp. Elizabeth, and of the Dodding family, 17th centy. In the vestry is a painting after Vandyck, of the 'Entombment of Christ.'

In *Trinity Ch.* is an altar-piece, after *Guido*, by *Ghirardi*, the painter of the former one.

Amongst the worthies of Ulverston were *Richard Ulverston*, a celebrated antiquary in the reign of Henry VI., and *Sir John Barrow*.

$\frac{1}{2}$ m. from the town is the village of *Dragley Beck*; and fronting the *Bardsea* road is a small cottage, the birthplace of *Sir John Barrow*, over the door of which is the motto, "Paulum sufficit."

Swartmoor Hall, formerly the residence of *George Fox*, the founder of the Quaker sect, 1 m. from Ulverston, on the road to *Urswick*, is a large irregular Elizabethan edifice. The spot is of some historical interest, as having been the place where the first regular meetings of the Society of Friends were held. The house was for a long period in a very dilapidated state; but it has undergone a complete renovation, and has been converted into a comfortable residence. A portion of it is occupied as a farm-house. There are some interesting old carved oak mantelpieces. One of the rooms is pointed out as having been the study of *Judge Fell*. The uppermost of the three front windows was that of *Fox's* study, from which he is said to have occasionally preached. The house became his property on his marriage with the widow of *Judge Fell*, who was one of his first converts. In 1652, while

travelling in *Furness*, *Fox* called at *Swartmoor Hall*, and in the absence of the *Judge*, then on circuit, preached to *Mrs. Fell* and her daughters with so much success that they at once adopted the tenets of Quakerism. On his return the *Judge* was much distressed at the change which had taken place in the religious opinions of his family; whereupon *Fox* requested permission to explain his doctrines, which he did so much to the satisfaction of the *Judge* that he became a steady friend and disciple of *Fox*, and established a weekly meeting at the *Hall*. *Fox* married the *Judge's* widow in 1669. She died at *Swartmoor Hall* in 1702. $\frac{1}{2}$ m. from the house is the first Quakers' meeting-house built in England.

Swartmoor is 2 m. S.W. of *Ulverston*. The army which invaded England from Ireland, in 1548, in support of the pretensions of the impostor *Lambert Simnel*, and which included 2000 Burgundian mercenaries, encamped here. In 1648 there was an affair at the same spot between the Parliamentary and the King's forces, in which the latter were worsted. The High Constable of *Furness* wrote to the Parliament:—"On 16th of September there came an army into *Furness*, of 1500 men, *Lord Molyneux*, *Sir George Middleton*, and *Sir John Girlington* being chief commanders for the King. Our people thought to have kept them out, but they had three nights' billet at *Ulverston*, and took most part of our arms, and 500*l.*, and plundered the place very sore. We (the Parliamentarians), however, got together 1500 men, horse and foot, many of them out of *Cumberland*; 8 companies of foot, and 3 troops of horse, all firemen, except about 20, who had pikes; they were all complete, and very stout fellows. They came to *Ulverston*, and rested there that night; and early on 1st

October, 1643, being Sunday, they set forward, and had prayers on Swartmoor, which being ended they marched forward until they came to Lyndal, and there the foot halted, and the horse went on to Lyndal Castle, and drew up in a valley, facing and shouting at Col. Huddleston's horse, who were drawn up on the top of Lyndal Close, who shouted also in return; which lasted about an hour, while the foot was receiving powder, shot, and match; which being ended, the foot marched up to the horse: then the King's horse fled; whereupon they raised a great shout, and pursued them very hotly, taking Col. Huddleston and 300 soldiers prisoners, besides 6 colours, 2 drums, and much money and apparel."

The Ulverston district has been called the Peru of Furness. The iron-mines are chiefly in the vicinity of Lindal and Dalton. Hollingshed says that the Scots in the reign of Edward II., during one of their raids into England, "met with no iron worth their notice until they came to Furness in Lancashire, where they seized all they could find, and carried it off with the greatest joy; and, although so heavy of carriage, they preferred it to all other plunder."

The iron ore (hæmatite) is very rich, the best producing 16 or 17 cwt. of metal to the ton. The deposits are found in the carboniferous limestone, and vary in depth from 30 to 60 yards. The Furness mines produce between 700,000 and 800,000 tons of very rich ore every year, although 30 years ago all the iron ore raised was exported in one small vessel. "The mode in which that valuable ore of iron (hæmatite) was deposited in the pre-existing cavities of the carboniferous formation is matter of great geological interest; joints, fissures, and caverns were formed in the older rocks antecedent to the deposition of the

Permian strata; and in these the ore of iron, so widely diffused throughout the Permian rocks in a portion of the N.W. region, assumed the character of hæmatite. The earlier Permian rocks of both England and Scotland are strongly impregnated with iron, their composition consisting principally of silica and an oxide of this metal. This inference concerning the Permian age of the hæmatite has also been arrived at by Professor Phillips."—*Sir R. Murchison*, 'Transactions R. G. Society, 1864.' The deposits of "kidney ore" in the Ulverston district are, however, of more recent origin, being found in the fissures and hollows of the limestone. They in some places mark the presence of a great irregular "fault;" in others they have been precipitated in open water-worn caverns. In such cases the ore was probably introduced during the New Red sandstone era, while the waters of the sea, saturated with red oxide of iron, flowed through the fissures and caverns of limestone, and filled them gradually up with the metallic matter held in partial solution. Large boulders of limestone are frequently found encased in the ore, together with clay and other substances. The productiveness of these mines is a source of great prosperity to the neighbourhood.

Rail to Furness Abbey, 7½ m.; *Grange*, 9½ m.; *Carnforth*, 17½ m.; *Barrow*, 9½ m.; *Newby Bridge*, 8½ m.

[*Conishead Priory* (H. W. Askew, Esq.), 2 m. S.E. of Ulverston, is approached by a road through the park. The mansion, which is in the Elizabethan style, from designs by *Wyatt*, formerly belonged to the *Braddyll* family. The drive through the park to *Bardsea* presents some pleasing scenery, the grounds extending to the shores of *Morecambe Bay*. *Conishead* stands on the site of an an-

cient priory, founded in the reign of Henry II. by Gamel de Pennington, assisted by the first Baron of Kendal, William de Taillebois. It was originally designed as a hospital for the poor of Ulverston, under the charge of the monks of the order of St. Augustine. The house, gardens, and conservatories are worth a visit, but they are not shown during the residence of the family. On the rt. of the road, near the S. lodge, is *Bardsea Hall*, sheltered by woods. It was once a hunting seat of the Molyneux family, and is supposed to occupy the site of the ancient hospital of Bardsea—the oldest ecclesiastical establishment in Furness. From the top of the wooded hill behind the hall, the sylvan scenery of Conishead Park and the wide expanse of the Bay may be viewed to great advantage.

3 m. *Bardsea (Inn: Braddyll's Arms, poor)* is situated on a hill sloping gently down to the shore. The *ch.* is modern, and contains some handsome stained glass.

From Bardsea a walk may be taken to the summit of Birkrigg, 2 m., following the road that skirts the boundary wall of Bardsea Hall Park, until the hamlet is reached. Proceed to the hamlet of Sunbrick, and return to Bardsea by *Well House (Mrs. Petty)*. The view from Birkrigg is very striking, and embraces the Bay, the Irish Channel, the Isle of Man, the Vale of Ulverston, the "Old Man" of Coniston, with other Cumbrian mountains. There are some interesting antiquities on Birkrigg, viz., an early British circle of 10 stones, about 3 ft. high, overlooking Bardsea, a camp or enclosure, called *Foula*, between Sunbrick and Scales, and on an eminence, $\frac{1}{2}$ m. S.W. of the *ch.*, the foundations of some ruder buildings, called *The Stone Walls*, which were probably an early settlement of the Celtic period.

4 m. S. of Bardsea is *Aldingham*. The *ch.* formerly belonged to the ancient manor of Muchland, or Michel-land, which, tradition reports, included the villages of Rhos and Crinleton, submerged in consequence of the subsidence of this part of the coast. Tradition, however, is incorrect in this instance, for the localities still exist under the names of Newton and Roose. A statement of the boundaries and annual value of these parishes is preserved in the ancient records of Furness Abbey. The *ch.* is all that remains of the original village of Aldingham. It contains a Norm. doorway, some windows with singular tracery, and pillars separating the aisle from the nave, alternately octagonal and cylindrical. A moat, 1 m. distant, indicates the former site of a castle, or more probably of a beacon or watch-tower, which commanded a wide prospect of the coast and bay, and communicated with another at Lancaster. "When George Fox was upon his wandering mission in 1652, after visiting Ulverston, he writes, 'The first day after I was moved to go to Aldenham steeplehouse, and when the priest had done, I spoke to him, but he got away. Then I declared the Word of Life to the people, and warned them to turn to the Lord.'"
—*Baines*.

Urnswick; 4 m. S. of Ulverston, is picturesquely situated in a valley close to the small lake of *Tarn Beck*, popularly, but, as usual, erroneously supposed to be unfathomable. The *ch.* is very ancient, dating from the Conquest. The massive embattled tower has two niches, one of which contains a mutilated figure of the *Mater Dolorosa*, to whom it is dedicated. Some of the windows are lancet-shaped, and ornamented with tracery work; others are plain and squareheaded. In the interior are

some curious *brasses*, a monumental stone of the 13th centy., with Longobardic characters, some stained glass on the S. side of the chancel, and a piscina. The massive key of the S. door (E. Norm.) is a remarkable specimen of mediæval workmanship, and bears traces of having been gilt. Impressions have frequently been taken of it by archæologists. The belfry contains a matins bell 370 years old. *Urswick Hall*, now a farmhouse, was held by the Fell family for 19 generations. The population in the neighbourhood is principally employed in the Adgarley and Staunton iron mines. A farmhouse at *Hawkfield* contains portions of the old *Bolton Chapel*, a chantry in which was granted to Richard, son of Sir Alan de Coup-land, in the reign of Henry III.

Gleaston Castle, 6 m. S., is believed to have been built by the Harringtons, Lords of Aldingham, after the sea had swept away their original residence. The supposed date is sometime between 1293 and 1457. The interior was enclosed by a thick wall, forming a parallelogram 288 ft. long, 132 ft. broad, with towers at each angle. Two of these remain almost entire, but the one at the N. is much decayed, and the other at the E. is nearly undistinguishable. Of the interior nothing remains. Gleaston was once the property of the Duke of Suffolk, father of Lady Jane Grey. It is pleasantly situated in a valley, surrounded by well cultivated hills, and its position shows that it was intended rather for a private residence than a fortress.

A good trout stream flows past the ruins.]

Proceeding from Ulverston by rly. to Furness Abbey, the first stat. is 2½ m. *Lindal*, near which the encounter between the Royal and Parliamentary forces took place in 1643. The iron mines, with their

tall chimneys, are conspicuous objects. Between Ulverston and Lindal on the rt. is *Pennington*, on the hills above which are some earthworks.

22. m. *Dalton Stat.*, a small town, though once the ancient capital of Furness. The Roman road from Maryport to Lancaster passed through it, and it was a Roman station. The Manor Court of the Abbots of Furness was held here, and the civil business of the monastery transacted in the square tower near the Market-place, still called Dalton Castle, and occupying the site of an older fortress, supposed to be coeval with the invasion of Agricola. It is an oblong building of 2 stories, the lower portion serving as a prison. The upper story has a 4-light window with segmented arch, and Dec. windows at the sides. At the angle of the parapet is a figure of a knight in the costume of Edward III. In 1631 Dalton was almost depopulated by the plague. It is now only remarkable for being the centre of the iron mines, which give employment to a large population. The tower of the ch. is ancient, as is also the N. door, probably of Norm. date, and carved with grotesque figures. In the interior is an old font, said to have belonged to Furness Abbey, and in the churchyard is the grave of *Romney*, the painter, a native of the place, whose father was a cabinetmaker here. It is marked by a plain stone, and the words "*Pictor celeberrimus.*" Among the old customs of Dalton was one called the *Dalton Hunt*, succeeded by a ball, called the Dalton Rout, which is mentioned in the 'Tatler.' It fell into disuse in 1789.

The tourist soon enters the beautiful valley of Furness; at the head of which the main line to Whitehaven turns off to the rt., while a

short branch runs down the 'glen to—

25 m. **FURNESS ABBEY JUNCT.** Close by the station is the Abbey Hotel, a pretty building in keeping with the character of the scenery. The accommodation is excellent, and there is a good refreshment room. From hence the traveller may proceed by frequent trains to Barrow, 2 m.; Ulverston, 7½ m.; Broughton, 10½ m.; Coniston, 19 m.

The remains of *Furness Abbey*, one of the finest examples of mediæval ecclesiastical architecture, are close to the rly. on the rt. The style of the Abbey was E. E., but as additions were made to it as its wealth increased, it gradually assumed a mixed character, known as transition. The abbey originated in a colony of monks from Savigny, in Normandy, who first of all settled near Preston (Tulketh Hall), and afterwards migrated to this spot, then called Beckansgill, or the Valley of Deadly Nightshade. In a poem composed by one of the monks, the deadly nightshade is said to have been changed into a harmless plant, doubtless by the sanctity imparted to the ground by the Abbey and its inmates:—

" *Hæc vallis tenuit olim sibi nomen ab herbâ
Bekân, quæ viruit dulcis nunc, tunc sæd
acerba:*

*Unde domus nomen Bekenesgill claruit
ante,*

Jam patris tantæ nomen partitur et omen."

The monks were invited by Stephen, Earl of Boulogne, afterwards King of England, to settle here, and build the abbey under his protection. The sculptured heads of Stephen and his Queen Maud are still seen, one on each side of the great E. window. In addition to the immense sum which must have been expended in the construction of so magnificent an edifice, Stephen endowed the convent, not only with the lands lying contiguous

to it, but with large estates in Lancashire, Yorkshire, and Cumberland, including the whole of Borrowdale, besides property in the Isle of Man, and in Ireland. The annual revenue of the monastery at the time of its dissolution in 1537 was 900*l.*, equivalent to 9000*l.* at the present day. The society possessed ships of considerable burden, with which it traded to foreign countries; and the iron-mines in Furness, although they do not appear to have been very extensively worked, supplied it with a valuable commodity for exchange. Mention is made of iron ore found on Walney Island, for the smelting of which the monks erected 2 furnaces. In the reign of Edw. I. the revenue of the abbey was estimated at a sum equivalent to 18,000*l.* of our present money. There were 33 monks at the time of the dissolution, and 100 other inmates, including servants. What is now the hotel was the residence of the abbot, and subsequently the residence of the Preston family. The abbey and its extensive range of offices were built of the red sandstone of the district, the softness of which did not admit of that minute and elaborate ornamentation which distinguishes some of the other abbeys of England. The masonry work, however, was so good, that portions of the walls still remain as firm as if they had been just built. The boundary-wall enclosed an area of 65 acres, in which were bakeries, malt-kilns, breweries, granaries, gardens, fish-ponds, and all the other appurtenances of a rich and luxurious conventual establishment. The abbey having been first settled from Normandy, the language of the common people of the Furness district is said still to retain some French words and idioms, not met with elsewhere in Lancashire. The surrounding estates of the abbey included the whole of the pre-montory on which it is situated;

and to the N., as far as the division of the counties of Westmoreland, Cumberland, and Lancashire, at the top of Wrynose, and the space between Windermere on the E. and the river Duddon on the W.—a district as large as the Isle of Man. It possessed also in its tenantry a military force, numbering 1200 men, of whom 400 were horsemen, available against the inroads of the Scots in the Border wars. A body of these troops, commanded by Sir Edward Stanley, was present at the Battle of Flodden Field, and they are thus referred to in the ancient ballad—

“ From Bowland billmen bold were brun,
With such as Bottom Banks did hide,
From Wharremore up to Whittington,
And all to Wenning water-side;
From Silverdale to Kent sand-side;
Whose soil is sown with cockle-shells;
From Cartmel also and Arnside,
With fellows fierce from Furness Fells.”

There was a beacon-tower on the hill above the abbey, which, on any alarm of invasion, flashed its fires across the Bay of Morecambe to the garrison of Lancaster. The entrance was through 2 low Gothic arches. On the l. is a small building, formerly used either as a porter's lodge or an almonry. On the N. is the large transept-window, its arch still perfect, but overgrown with ivy: below is the principal door, Early Norm.; to the l. are remains of several tombs of the abbots and of distinguished persons who were buried there. The transept is 129 ft. long and 28 ft. wide, and the ch. is 304 ft. from E. to W. On the E. of the N. transept is a chapel, separated by 3 arches. There is another chapel, attached to the S. transept, containing over one of the pillars a trefoil-headed niche and some good moulding. The great tower rose from the centre of the transept, and was supported on 4 arches; 3 of the pillars remain, and the E. arch is perfect. The arch of the great E. window is broken; its

stained glass was taken away to decorate the ch. of Bowness, where some of it still is. Below the great E. window stood the high-altar; the beautiful sedilia remain; they are supposed to have been richly gilt, and, with the coloured capitals of the choir and nave, and the rich stained glass of the windows, the interior must have presented a very gorgeous appearance. On the ground within the choir are many monumental slabs, some bearing the arms of the first Barons of Kendal. There are effigies of 3 mailed crosslegged warriors of the age of Henry III. or Edward I. Upon the heads of 2 are cylindrical flat-topped helmets, with horizontal slits in the vizors—very curious. There is also a draped female figure, well executed; and ranged in some order are several very perfect tombs of ecclesiastics, marked by crosses.

The *Chapter-house* is to the S. of the chancel, and was divided from it by a vestry and side-chapels. It must have been a very elegant building, and, even in its decay, furnishes exquisite subjects for the pencil. A pillar has been judiciously reconstructed out of the fragments, and stands in its original upright position, with its elegant shaft and capital, giving some idea of what the room must have been when perfect. It measures 60 ft. by 45 ft. Its groined and fretted roof fell in some time in the last centy. The remains of the pillars which supported the 12 ribbed arches show the extreme beauty and simplicity of the design. Above the Chapter-house were the library and scriptorium; beyond was the refectory, with rooms connected with it—one, the locutorium, where the monks retired after dinner for conversation, and another the calefactorium, also the lavatorium, which opened upon the garden. The kitchen and other offices communicated with

these apartments. Outside the S. boundary-wall is a building supposed to have been either a school-house or hospitium. The W. end of the ch. was intended to bear a lofty belfrey, but it was never erected, the softness of the stone, probably, not being able to bear the weight. This portion of the abbey is the most recent.

In the hotel may be seen some good bas-reliefs, formerly ornaments of the abbey. In the coffee-room is a sculpture of Adam and Eve, and in the upper rooms are Mary Magdalene anointing our Lord's feet, the Woman with the Issue of Blood, John the Baptist, and St. John. The great hall of the monastery was in the Early Dec. style, but is now a mere ruin. There are no remains of cloisters, but 3 very richly-moulded deep Norm. porches face the spot where they formerly stood. The abbey possessed great power, and was supreme throughout Furness. The whole pop. was in a state of vassalage to the house; the mesne lords, on receiving the summons of the abbot, provided their respective contingents for the service of the convent, and every tenant was bound to furnish a man and horse, fully equipped for the Border wars and for the protection of the coast.

For a period of 400 years the abbots succeeded peaceably in their rule over this grand convent and its princely domains, receiving constant accessions of wealth, the greater part of which was grossly abused. The day of reckoning came at last, and the abbey was formally surrendered to Henry VIII. by its last abbot, Roger Pyle. From that period it went gradually to decay, and much of its ornamental stonework and materials were carried away to decorate or build parish churches. The rooks and daws have had uninterrupted possession of its ivied tower for 3 centuries.

The ruin is the property of the Duke of Devonshire, who has taken judicious measures for its preservation. They who may be curious to know the condition of the society at the period of its dissolution are referred to the Appendix of West's 'History of the Abbey of Furness.' The best view of it is from a hill to the E. of the abbey, the spot where the beacon-tower formerly stood. Wordsworth has left, in one of his sonnets, a record of the impression which he received from Furness Abbey:—

"Here, where of havoc tired and rash
undoing,
Man left this structure to become Time's
prey;
A soothing spirit following in the way
That Nature takes, her counter-work per-
suing.
See how her Ivy clasps the sacred ruin,
Fall to prevent or beautify decay;
And on the mouldering walls how bright
how gay,
The flowers in pearly dew their bloom
renewing."

27½ m. *Barrow Stat.* (*Isn*: Royal, poor). The town of Barrow, the neighbouring island of Walney, and Peel Castle, can all be reached in a few minutes from Furness. *Barrow Island*, which is separated from the town by a narrow channel, is said to have been a favourite burial-place of the Northmen, who desired that their "barrows" should be on high and unenclosed spots, that they might be seen by travellers by sea and land. The island, which is small, has been long under cultivation, so that no traces remain of the graves from which it probably derived its name.

Barrow is the port from which the iron ore of Furness is shipped. In the early part of the present century, there was only one house on the peninsula on which Barrow now stands. A poor fishing village then sprang up and increased rapidly to a considerable town, which was incorporated in 1867. There are,

indeed, but few instances of so sudden a creation of a place of commercial importance. In 1847 the population of Barrow was 325; in 1864 it amounted to 10,068, and in 1867 to 17,000. The great development of the Furness iron mines has caused this rapid progress. In 1847 the Furness Rly. was first opened, and in that year it conveyed to the port 103,768 tons of iron ore. In 1863 the quantity conveyed for shipment was 621,525 tons. The hæmatite iron works of Messrs. Schneider and Co., 1 m. from the town, are well worth a visit: 8 large furnaces are in constant blast, and are capable of turning out from 2000 to 3000 tons of metal per week. The establishment comprises all the latest improvements in the art of smelting. The gas generated from the furnaces is utilised, both for light and heat, by being caught at the furnace top and carried away in pipes to various parts of the works. It is a beautiful sight to see the emptying of the retorts, which hold 5 tons of molten metal. It is so "lively" that it must be covered up and weighted while at a white heat, otherwise, like quicksilver, it would rise up and overflow the moulds. In a portion of the factory where the metal is converted into steel by the Bessemer process, may be seen the formation of the steel into fabrics of different kinds. Steel rails, tires for wheels, &c., grow into shape with inconceivable rapidity. In illustration at once of the excellent quality of the steel here manufactured, and of the strength of the machinery, it may be mentioned that steel rails have actually been bent and twisted into a knot without exhibiting any flaw or strain in the fibre. In consequence of the high percentage of the Furness hæmatite ore, its easy fusibility, intense heating property, and great strength, it is peculiarly adapted

for conversion into steel. The steel works at Barrow, when in full operation, can convert weekly about 1000 tons of pig-iron into Bessemer steel, worth from 12*l.* to 14*l.* per ton. Yards for ship-building, ropewalks, and brick-works, give employment to numbers of persons at Barrow. The town possesses a Mechanics' Institute, a public library, and reading-room. St. George's Church, in the Dec. style, is a handsome building, well situated.

The Docks.—The channel dividing Barrow Island from the mainland has been converted, by enclosing it from the open sea at both ends, into extensive floating docks. Of these docks, next to the size—in which respect they stand unrivalled on this line of coast, with the exception of those at Birkenhead—the great merit consists in the economy of their construction. Although the total cost will be about 300,000*l.*, it is alleged that no such docks in the kingdom will have been completed for so small a sum. The mode in which the site was turned to account is in the highest degree ingenious. Of the numerous islands on the S. side of the peninsula, the nearest, Barrow Island, was separated from the town by a narrow channel. The rly. company, however, encroaching more and more upon the sea, reduced the distance between the island and the mainland until there was only a tideway some few hundred yards in width. This tideway the engineers conceived the design of converting into floating docks, so that the island and mainland should in future be one, with the space between no longer a free channel for the sea, but a basin in which vessels might float at all times of the tide. The southern face of Barrow Island has been appropriated for ship-building yards. The outer island, Walney, 10 m. in

length, serves as a natural break-water to Barrow, and it is estimated that around and in different parts of Barrow Island, which the rly. company has purchased, there are 10 m. of sidings. The docks are adapted to vessels of all sizes, the depth of water maintained being 22 ft. The quays are $1\frac{1}{2}$ m. in length, the area of the Devonshire Dock is 30 acres, that of the Buccleuch Dock 33 acres, and of the timber-pond $35\frac{1}{2}$ acres.

The principal neighbouring islands are Old Barrow, Walney, Foulney, Pile of Fouldry or Peel Island, Roe Island, Dora Howe, and Ramsey. Walney is about 10 m. long by 1 broad, and rises like a wall out of the sea, as its name denotes:—

"The isle of Walney lyes, whose longitude
doth swage
His fury, when his waves on Furnesse seem
to warre
Whose crooked back is arm'd with many a
rugged scarre
Against his boystrous shocks, which this
defensive isle
Of Walney still assayle, that shee doth
scorne the while,
Which to assist her with the Pile of Foul-
dry set
And Fulney at her backe, a pretty insulet."
Drayton.

Walney possesses a rich soil, and produces good grain crops.

The Abbots of Furness erected dikes to prevent the irruption of the sea at high tides and in gales of wind, but after the dissolution of the monastery these precautions were neglected, and the sea has several times since flowed over the island, doing immense damage. Inundations occurred in 1771, 1796, and 1821, in which latter year the sea broke down part of the dike and flooded many acres. Large flocks of sea-fowl haunt the island, amongst which the naturalist may observe *Tadorna vulpanser* (shell duck), *Charadrius hiaticula* (ring plover), *Hemalopus ostralegus* (oyster

catcher), *Larus marinus* (black backed gull), &c. At the S.E. end is a lighthouse, 68 ft. high, erected in 1799.

A branch rly. from Barrow to the extremity of the peninsula opposite *Peel Island*, 4 m., has been carried, by means of an embankment, to Roe Island, where there is a long pier. Steamers ply daily from it to the Isle of Man (Douglas), Belfast, and, in the summer, two or three times a day to Fleetwood (Rte. 41). On the beach of Roe Island may be seen many large boulders of granite, which were transported during the glacial period from Shap Fells.

Peel Island can be reached in a few minutes by a boat from Peel pier. The *Castle* was built in the reign of Edward III. (1327) for the protection of the harbour, and as a place of retreat for the people of the neighbourhood during hostile incursions from the Border. It was called the Pile of Fouldry, from which it is evident that the island formerly bore the name of Fouldry, or the Flame island, from "*foudra*," Norse for flame, and "*ey*," an island.—*Fergusson*. It is possible, therefore, that there was an older fortress, on the site of which the castle was built, and that it was originally an advanced beacon, intended to communicate with the watch-towers of Furness. The keep consisted of 3 stories, and was protected by a double moat, walls, and flanking towers. In the exterior quadrangle stood the chapel. A considerable portion of the walls of the castle has been destroyed by the inroads of the sea, and fragments of them are scattered along the shore. The castle has been a place of much strength and importance. The buttresses and the mullions of the windows are of red sandstone, but the mass of the building was built apparently of the boulders collected

from the beach, rudely but strongly cemented together. On the E. and S. sides the sea now covers a large extent of ruins, which are visible under water. On the N. and W. sides the 2 moats, the double lines of wall, and the strong flanking towers, give a good idea of the original strength and solidity of the ancient fortress. Here was it that, in the reign of Henry VII., the Earl of Lincoln and Lord Lovel, with 2000 German soldiers under Martin Swart, and a number of Irish under Lord Geraldine, landed, to support the pretensions of Lambert Simnel, the self-styled Earl of Warwick.

At *Newland*, $1\frac{1}{2}$ m., is a small iron-work.

At $3\frac{1}{2}$ m., *Greenodd Stat.*, the road divides: to the rt. to *Newby Bridge*; to the l. to *Spark Bridge* and *Coniston*, by the side of the pretty river *Crake*.

Penny Bridge Hall is the seat of *J. P. Machell, Esq.*, and *Summer Hill*, a little higher up the vale of *Crake*, of *J. Clarke, Esq.* A little further on the line crosses the stream of the *Rusland Pool*, and over the *Ireland Moss* to

6 m. *Haverthwaite Stat.* At *Lowwood* are powder-works. The whole of the district, though not by any means so grand an order of scenery as most of the *Lake country*, and consequently seldom or ever visited, will, nevertheless, amply repay the pedestrian, for there is a great variety of rock and woodland, larch, ash, hazel, and fir, which, in addition to adding zest to the scenery, are of much commercial value for the use of the bobbin and hoop manufacturers, and the two or three charcoal iron furnaces in the neighbourhood. This, indeed, is the only locality in Great Britain where the old fashioned and primitive smelting by charcoal has not been superseded by coal or coke. The pedestrian may extend his wanderings into the hilly parish of *Colton*. Near the ch. is the farmhouse of *Greenhead*, formerly the seat of the *Rawlinsons*, of which family was *Christopher Rawlinson*, author of the Saxon version of '*Boethius de Consolatione Philosophiæ*,' attributed to *King Alfred*. He is said to have been the last of the line of the *Plantagenets*. From *Colton* a charming mountain road runs across to *Nibthwaite*, at the foot of *Coniston Water*, about 5 m. from *Greenodd*. There is a large bobbin-factory here. From *Haverthwaite Stat.* he may follow up the valley of the *Rusland*, through *Bouth*, to the

ROUTE 45.

FROM ULVERSTON TO AMBLESIDE BY NEWBY BRIDGE AND BOWNESS.

A branch rly. runs from *Ulverston* to *Windermere*, calling at *Haverthwaite Stat.*, whence the tourist can proceed to *Newby Bridge*, and there embark on board the steamer for *Bowness*, *Lowwood*, and *Ambleside*.

The line passes under the foot of *Hoad Hill*, crowned by *Sir John Barrow's monument*, and skirts the high ground which overlooks the estuary of the *Leven*. On the opposite side are *Speel Bank* and the heights above *Cartmel*.

hamlet of Rusland (the *Hall*, C. D. Archibald, Esq.), and thence to Esthwaite Water, and Hawkhead. Grand panoramas are constantly obtained of the Coniston mountains—the Old Man, Wetherlam, and all that rugged range, with the more distant ranges towards Langdale, which form a superb background to the softer woodlands and valleys all round.

At *Backbarrow*, $7\frac{1}{2}$ m., where is an ironwork, the Leven is crossed, and the tourist soon reaches the Swan at *Newby Bridge*, $8\frac{1}{2}$ m., one of the best and most famous hotels in the Lake district. The river flows in front of the hotel, and is spanned by a bridge of three arches. The hill above the hotel should be ascended for the sake of the views of Windermere, and the Leven estuary. There are few better salmon rivers in England than the Leven, but the fishing is in the hands of a private association.

A steamer leaves Newby Bridge several times a day for Bowness, Lowwood, and Waterhead (Amble-side).

After a short passage up the Leven, the tourist emerges upon the surface of *Windermere*, the largest of the English lakes, in circumference somewhat less than 23 m., though in breadth it rarely exceeds 1 m. Its principal affluents are the *Rotha*, the *Brathay*, *Cunsey Beck*, and the *Troutbeck* river. Its effluent is the *Leven*, which, after a course of 5 m. enters *Morecambe Bay*. The water of *Windermere* is particularly clear, and the lake preserves a generally uniform level. Trout, pike, perch, and char abound in it, and salmon are occasionally taken. The scenery of its banks is soft, excepting in its N. reach, where, in consequence of the proximity of the *Langdale Pikes*, and *Bowfell*, one of the most pictu-

rious, it rises into grandeur. To see it thoroughly many excursions would be required. A considerable portion of it, and especially towards *Newby Bridge*, has the appearance rather of a river than a lake. From *Bowness* to its S. extremity both banks are richly wooded, but the hills are only of moderate elevation.

As the steamer proceeds up the lake, on the l. is *Finsthwaite* and *Stot Park* (*John Fell*, Esq.), opposite the larch-covered height of *Gunner's How*, to the islands of *Blake Holme* and *Silver Holme*. On l. is *High Graythwaite Hall*, the beautiful Elizabethan seat of *J. Dalrymple Sandys*, Esq., whose ancestors settled in *Furness* temp. *Henry VI.* Of this family, a member of which married the heiress of an *Abbot of Furness*, were *Edwyn Sandys*, *Archbishop of York* (Rte 46) and his son, *George*, an eminent traveller and scholar. One of the curiosities of *Graythwaite* is the "peg" tankard, marked in the inside with a row of silver pegs, to show where each guest drank.

Higher up, on the same side, the *Cunsey Beck* flows in from *Esthwaite* water. Nearly opposite, on the rt. bank, is *Storrs Hall* (*Rev. T. Stanniforth*). The mansion is finely situated, but the interior is not shown during the residence of the owner. It was built by *Sir John Legard*, and was often visited by *Mr. Canning* during the proprietorship of *Mr. Bolton*. In 1825, *Canning*, *Scott*, *Wordsworth*, and *Wilson*, "the *Admiral of the Lake*," as *Mr. Canning* called him, assembled there, and the reunion of so many illustrious persons was celebrated by a brilliant regatta on *Windermere*, over which "*Christopher North*" presided. The mansion contains some pictures of great merit. The collection was formed by *Mr. Bolton*. The following enumeration of them is from *Waagen's 'Galleries and Cabinets of Art*

in Great Britain:—Lot and his Daughters, by *Guercino*; a copy of *Quentin Matsys' Misers*, the original in Windsor Castle; Joseph giving the Child to the Virgin, *Murillo*; a Sea-piece, by *William Van de Velde*; Ruins, by *Jan Asselyn*; an Apothecary with a Book in a window recess, by *Metzu*; a Landscape, by *Jan Baptiste Weenix*; a Virgin and Child, by *Giovanni Pedrini*; 4 small pictures of the Seasons, by *Teniers*; a male Saint with a palm-branch, by *Carlo Dolce*; a Landscape, formerly in the possession of Sir Joshua Reynolds, by *Claude Lorraine*; a Party in the open-air, by *Jan Steen*, one of the finest works of the master; a fine bust of Canning, by *Chantrey*. There is also a rich collection of porcelain, with specimens of the different manufactories.

At Storrs Hall the boundary between Lancashire and Westmoreland is crossed, as far as regards the E. side of Windermere, though on the west bank the former county extends to the very head. The steamer now calls at *Bowness*. $\frac{1}{4}$ m. from Windermere Stat. (*Hotels*: Royal, Crown, Victoria.)

The ch. is very old, and was dedicated to St. Martin. The stained glass in the E. window belonged to Furness Abbey, and, after its dissolution, was brought to Bowness. But little of the design can be traced, in consequence of the imperfect manner in which the glass has been put together, or from subsequent injury. The window is divided into three compartments, one of which is said to represent St. George and the Dragon, others the Crucifixion. Above are the arms of France and England, and a group of monks in their habits, with their names on scrolls underneath. The whole is surrounded by a border of armed figures and tracery, with the armorial bearings of different families, benefactors to the Abbey.

[*Shropshire, &c.*]

Bishop Watson was buried in the churchyard near the E. window, and there is a neat monument to his memory in the ch. In 1865 some curious memorials of the Reformation were discovered on removing the whitewash and plaster from the walls, consisting of a great number of texts, with comments on them, explanatory of the new doctrines.

Belle Isle, or Curwen's Island, is nearly opposite Bowness, and comprises about thirty acres prettily wooded, with a mansion in the middle. Visitors are permitted to walk in the grounds. The island was a stronghold of the royalists during the Civil Wars, and was the property of the Philipsons, an ancient family of Westmoreland, of whom there are some monuments in the ch. of Bowness.

There are several spots near Bowness whence fine views of the lake are to be obtained, especially from Biscay How, a rocky eminence to the E., and also from a field on the l. of the road leading to Windermere village, and especially from Miller Brow (*The Priory*, W. Carver, Esq.), 1 m. on the Ambleside road. The woods of Calgarth here form a foreground to a landscape of wonderful beauty, including the whole of the upper reach of the lake, Coniston Old Man, and Langdale Pikes. A short distance from Bowness, near the shore of the lake, is *Rayrigg*, an old mansion-house once occupied by William Wilberforce.

Conveyances.—A coach daily during the season from the Ferry Inn opposite Bowness, through Hawkshead (Rte. 46), to Coniston, 10 m., for the rly. to Furness Abbey, which may thus be conveniently visited from Bowness or Windermere Stat. A coach to Patterdale for Ullswater daily, 10 m. There is a pleasant footpath to the ferry 1 m. across the fields. The ferry-boat conveys carriages and passengers across the lake in $\frac{1}{4}$ of an hour.

A few minutes' walk from the ferry inn is a summer-house called the *Station*, belonging to the proprietor of Curwen's Island. Each window is filled with differently-coloured glass. The effect produced is singular.

Continuing up the lake, conspicuous on the l. (and in Lancashire) are the towers of *Wrae Castle*, built in 1842 by James Dawson, Esq., M.D., of Liverpool, and intended to represent a feudal fortress of the Middle Ages. The best parts of it, however, are the outside, and the situation, which cannot be surpassed. The views up Langdale are superb from this part of the lake, and include Harrison and Stickle Pikes, High Easdale, Lingmoor, and Sergeant Man, while the foreground is filled with the mighty masses of Loughrigg and the Rydal Fells. Close to *Lowwood Hotel*, where the steamer calls, is *Dovesnest*, for a short time the residence of Mrs. Hemans, a plain unpretending house, beautifully situated. At the head of the lake the village of Clappersgate is seen nestling under the wooded heights of Loughrigg, together with *Brathay Hall* (G. Redmayne, Esq.), in the centre of a wooded park. The tourist fairly enters Westmoreland, and the most lovely portion of the lake district at *Waterhead Pier*, from whence omnibuses complete the journey of 1 m. to *Ambleside* (*Handbook to the Lakes*). *Hotels*: Salutation, Brown's Queen's Hotel, White Lion.

ROUTE 46.

FROM FURNESS JUNCTION TO AMBLESIDE BY BROUGHTON, CONISTON, AND HAWKSHEAD.

The Whitehaven line, after passing through the Vale of Nightshade, skirts the E. shore of the Dutton estuary nearly to Broughton.

4 m. *Irsleth Stat.* On the rt. are the extensive slate quarries belonging to the Duke of Devonshire, in which several hundred workmen are employed. The quarries produce some of the best roofing-slates in the kingdom, and are largely exported from Barrow. The debris which cover the side of the hill have the appearance of military earthworks. The men employed in the quarries have to be let down by ropes for the purpose of boring previous to blasting the slate. Some of the slates take a good polish, and exhibit fossils; over 10,000 tons are annually sent away from here.

7½ m. *Kirkby Stat.* On l. are the hæmatite iron furnaces of the Furness Iron Co., round which a considerable population has grown up. The *ch.*, partly rebuilt in 1826, is late Perp., and has a good S. doorway with deep mouldings and beak-head carving. *Old Kirkby Hall*, the seat of the Kirkby family for 10 generations, is a fine old Tudor building with a large hall and some curiously carved rooms. In one, called the chapel, the Lord's Prayer and Creed are painted in red letters on the walls. The rly. here takes a very wide bend, so as to circumvent the Duddon estuary, and it has been proposed to throw an embankment across to the opposite coast, which would reduce the distance by nearly two-thirds.

9½ m. at FOXFIELD JUNC. the main

line enters Cumberland (*Handbook to the Lakes*), while a branch is given off on rt. to

10½ m. *Broughton Stat.* (*Inns*: the Old King's Head; the King's Head), a small neat town, built on a gentle slope, the inhabitants occupied for the most part in making hoops and rake-handles from the brushwood of the Furness Fells. *Broughton Tower* (John Sawrey, Esq.), an old embattled, gloomy-looking mansion on a hill above the town, is approached by an avenue of ancient firs. A portion of the N. side of the mansion is all that remains of the former edifice. The walls are of immense thickness, but the interior has been considerably modernised. It originally belonged to Sir Thomas Broughton, who joined Lambert Simnel on his landing. The family of Broughton was of great antiquity, and the influence of Sir Thomas was so considerable, that he was one of the prominent members of the confederacy which attempted to subvert the government of Henry VII. Sir Thomas is said to have fallen in battle; but there is a tradition that he lived many years in concealment at Witherslack, in Westmoreland. The views from the grounds of Broughton Tower, which are open to tourists, both inland and towards the sea, will repay a visit. The *ch.* is a plain, weatherbeaten old building of the 16th centy., on the S. outskirts of the town. In the *ch.-yd.*, under the E. wall, is a series of gravestones of the Latham family, the ages of the deceased sufficiently betokening the great healthiness of the locality. Broughton is situated on high ground close to the junction of the little river Lickle with the *Duddon*. This latter river rises on Wrynose, in the vicinity of the three Shire Stones, runs 12 m. as a stream to Broughton, forming the boundary

between Lancashire and Cumberland, and then expands into an estuary of 9 m. in length, with a mean width of about 2¼ m. to the sea. Its highest reach runs through the narrow vale, called the Vale of Duddon, to Seathwaite; its central reach traverses a wider vale, called the Plain of Dunnerdale; its next reach, as far as Broughton, is in the Vale of Ulpha, and its estuary comprises about 13,000 acres of silty deposit, quite capable of being converted, by warping, into a tract of fertile land. The Duddon, above the tidal flow, abounds in trout, salmon, and particularly fine cockles. On *Heaththwaite Fells*, 2 m. to E. of Broughton, are some cairns and a series of stone walls without mortar, supposed to be an early British settlement.

Broughton is the starting-point whence to make the excursion, which, by hiring a conveyance, may be accomplished in 5 or 6 hours. Leaving the Bootle-road, at Duddon Bridge, the road turns to the rt. and leads between high hedges to the Ulpha Fells. The lower course of the river is here hidden by the woods of *Duddon Grove* (Major Rawlinson) on the l., a neat mansion beautifully situated on the rt. bank of the stream. More conspicuous than the house is a small temple of white freestone, the entablature supported by plain columns with Corinthian capitals; the interior is decorated with stained glass. Duddon Grove may be reached by entering a wooded lane to the l. (1¼ m. from Duddon Bridge), first passing through a farm-yard. From the bridge at the end of the lane the river scenery is very beautiful, and will well repay a short détour. A little beyond Duddon Grove, Ulpha Fell is reached, where the scenery becomes wilder and more open. Corney, Stainton, and Birker Fells, are all conspicuous objects in the distance; but, "grand as the wild

fells are when purpled with autumnal splendour, the speciality, the very genius of this valley's charm is the varied loveliness of its stream. Every turn in it brings a new picture to the eye."—*Mackay*.

Ulpha, or *Ulpha Kirk* (4 m. from *Duddon Bridge*, 5½ from *Broughton*), a small hamlet; the *Inn* affords but humble accommodation. The ch.-yd. is the subject of one of *Wordsworth's* fine sonnets on the river *Duddon*.

"How sweet were leisure I could it yield no more
Than 'mid that wave-washed churchyard
to recline,
From pastoral graves extracting thoughts
divine,
Or there to pace and mark the summits
hoar
Of distant moonlit mountains faintly shine,
Soothed by the unseen river's gentle roar."

The rocks here are curiously water-worn; being scooped by the eddies into large holes called "pots." A little beyond *Ulpha* is *Mill Bridge*, where the river flows over mossy rocks. From this point the scenery progressively rises in interest, *Hard-knot*, *Bowfell*, and *Scawfell* grandly towering in the distance.

At *Newfield* in *Seathwaite* are the "Stepping Stones," the subject of *Wordsworth's* Sonnets X. and XI. Here is undoubtedly the finest scenery of the *Duddon*; the valley retaining much of its cultivated character, and the mountains being still sufficiently distant to preserve their atmospheric tints. For some distance, the bed of the river is strewn with masses of rock, which have fallen from the crags above. The river here receives the stream which flows from *Seathwaite Tarn*. Looking up the gorge, through which the *Duddon* makes its way into *Dunnerdale*, flanked on the rt. by the perpendicular rock called the *Pen*, and on the opposite side by *Wallabarrow Crag*, the scene is one that will not readily be forgotten. The impetuous course of

the river in flood, combined with the character of its banks, has given rise to many curious phenomena—deep quiet pools of emerald-green water, and rocks fashioned into most fantastic shapes.

"From this deep chasm, where quivering
sunbeams play
Upon its loftiest crags mine eyes behold
A gloomy niche, capacious, blank, and cold;
A concave free from shrubs and mosses
gray;
In semblance fresh, as if, with dire affray,
Some statue, placed amid these regions cold
For tutelary service, thence had rolled,
Startling the flight of timid Yesterday."

The chief interest of the *Duddon* valley commences at *Hail Dunnerdale Bridge*; cross it, go up the bank by the river as far as the "Stepping Stones" at *Newfield*, cross the stream by them and rejoin your car, which has proceeded by the road. There is a reach in this part of the *Duddon*, which, once seen, can never be effaced from the memory. The whole course of the river, from *Dunnerdale Bridge* for 4 m., is one continuous series of pictures, a combination of rock, wood and water seldom equalled. *Birks Bridge* is a few yards off the highway, and the view from it should not be lost; but it is necessary to order the driver of your car to pull up when near it, or you will be driven past a most interesting point at full-trot, and so miss the most perfect picture of its kind to be seen anywhere. Below *Dunnerdale* the crags cease, and above *Birks* the wood is more scanty, and the heights recede further from the stream.

There is a small *Inn* at *Newfield*. In the ch.-yd. is a slab supported by two upright stones, marking the grave of the *Rev. Robert Walker*, who died in 1741, aged 90,—a clergyman whose character has been thought worthy of a sonnet, and of an elaborate panegyric in prose, by *Wordsworth*. He was a simple, zealous, and laborious pastor; and although his annual stipend only

amounted to 5*l.*, he reared 12 children, and died worth 2000*l.* Close to the ch. is the parsonage, a small cottage covered with climbing roses, in which Walker lived. His employments were multifarious; he was the parish priest, schoolmaster, and doctor of the district; he made wills and prepared and engrossed deeds, was the amanuensis of his uneducated parishioners, sold home-brewed beer, cultivated his glebe with his own hands, and worked for wages at haymaking and sheepshearing.

The little chapel is scarcely larger than a labourer's cottage. Walker's pew is shown, lined with cloth woven by himself.

Cockley Beck, 5 m. from Newfield, is nearly at the extremity of the valley of the Duddon. The scenery between Cockley Beck and Wrynose is dreary; the river is merely a brawling mountain-stream, and the valley a scene of almost unmitigated desolation, with Grey Friars on the rt. and Harter Fell and Hardknot on the l. At Cockley Beck is a solitary farmhouse, shaded by sycamores, "the cottage rude and grey" of Wordsworth's sonnet. Here one road turns to the rt. over Wrynose into Langdale, and the other to the l. over Hardknot into Eskdale.

If the *Walna Scar* route should be taken from Coniston, the scenery of the lower portion of the river Duddon would be lost, but of this road Professor Wilson says, "there are few grander walks in the North of England." The path to Seathwaite Tarn, skirting the foot of Blake Rigg, is nearly as high as the Old Man itself. The lake lies in a very lonely region, and has a small island. "Here Nature seems to have held her dominion with a sway more absolute than in any other dale in the country." The view of Dunnerdale, from Walna Scar, Wordsworth also says, "towards the close of September, when the aftergrass of the meadow is

still of a fresh green, with the leaves of the trees faded, but perhaps none fallen, is truly enchanting. At a point elevated enough to show the various objects of the valley, and not so high as to diminish their importance, the stranger will instinctively halt. On the foreground, a little below the most favourable station, a rude foot-bridge is thrown over the bed of the noisy brook foaming by the wayside. Russet and craggy hills of bold and varied outline surround the level valley, which is besprinkled with grey rocks, plumed with birch-trees. A few homesteads are interspersed, peeping out from among the rocks like hermitages, where sites for houses have been chosen for the benefit of sunshine as well as shelter."

An admirer of the poet of the Duddon may probably prefer following the stream from its source with the volume containing the Sonnets in his hand, to ascending its banks from Broughton. To do this, he may proceed either from Coniston, through Yewdale, or from Ambleside, through Little Langdale, to Fell Foot, 5 m., from whence he will commence the ascent of *Wrynose*. At its summit are the 3 Shire Stones, marking the junction of the 3 counties of Lancashire, Westmoreland, and Cumberland. Immediately after passing these, on turning to the l., a little out of the road, he will come upon the source of the Duddon in a bed of green moss.

"To dignify the spot that gives thee birth,
No sign of hoar Antiquity's esteem
Appears, and none of modern Fortune's
care;
Yet thou thyself hast round thee shed a
gleam
Of brilliant moss, instinct with freshness
rare,
Prompt offering to thy foster mother
Earth?"—*Sonnets* III.

After a descent of 1½ m. the tourist will reach Cockley Beck. From Cockley Beck the course of the river

may be followed to Duddon Bridge; and no difficulty will be found in identifying the several spots described by the poet.

From Broughton the rly. runs up the glen watered by the Steers Pool to

4 m. *Woodland Stat.*, and as it approaches

5 m. *Torver Stat.*, where the chapel is said by tradition to have been erected by Archbp. Cranmer, the tourist gains the first view on rt. of Coniston Water, at the head of which is situated the charming village of

8½ m. *Coniston*, the terminus of the line (*Hotel*: Waterhead, Lake Bank Hotel; both excellent. Coniston Lake lies parallel to and about 5 m. W. of Windermere; it is 6 m. in length, by ¾ m. broad. The char are considered the best in the Lake district. The scenery of its banks is generally soft and pleasing; but at its northern extremity it is more imposing. A steam gondola plies on the lake 2 or 3 times a day, and after 6 p.m. it may be engaged for private excursions at a charge of 15s. At Nibthwaite, the river Crake flows out, and the Lake is here seen to great advantage, the broken promontories of the distant Yewdale crags and the fine mass of the Old Man forming a superb background.

The road on the E. side is rather disappointing. It is between woods, and at no point commands a perfect view, and the Old Man and Weatherlam are too near for effect. The most beautiful point is that between the Lake Bank Hotel and Guntery Bank on the W. About 1 m. from the head of the lake on the W. bank is *Coniston Hall*, the old seat of the Flemings, but now a farmhouse, which contains some work of the 15th centy. The hall is turned into a barn.

Coniston Old Man (2632 ft.) is so called from the pile of stones on its

summit, such piles on the tops of hills being provincially called "men." The geological features of the mountain are interesting. From the village to the top, the strata are shown in fine open sections. At the base is a bed of transition limestone: granite and felspar are met with in the ascent, but the mass of the mountain is composed of blue slate, of which there are several quarries. In commencing the ascent from the village, follow along the course of the stream flowing from Levers Water, a tarn on the N. side of the mountain. The road is steep and irregular. On reaching the copper-mines, the crest of the mountain is on the L. above 2 slate-quarries, the one at a higher elevation than the other, the highest of which is connected by a road with the lower. Shortly after quitting the higher of these quarries, the mountain tarn of *Low Water* is seen, and from this point the tract is marked by a zig-zag path, passing a third quarry, and leading along a sloping ridge to the summit. The N. side of *Levers Water*, the largest of all the tarns, and one of the most beautiful both in shape and position, measuring 1 m. in circumference, and nearly circular in form, is passed during the ascent. It lies between the Old Man and Weatherlam. From it there is a road to *Low Water*, another tarn just under "the Old Man." *Low Water* is the highest of the Coniston tarns. The ascent may also be made by following the road over *Walna Scar* for about 1 m. and then turning to the rt. towards an old slate-quarry, whence it is a rough scramble to the top. *Blind Tarn*, so called from its having no outlet, will be visible to the S. under *Walna Scar*, and a walk of ½ m. from the top to the N.W. will bring the tourist in sight of *Seathwaite Tarn*, from whence the Bark issues to fall into the Duddon. The mountain-range of

Weatherlam, which sweeps round to the N. of the Old Man, is well worth a visit for the grand and varied prospects it affords. From Weatherlam the return may be made to Coniston through Tilberthwaite and Yewdale. The ascent to the summit of the "Old Man" from Coniston will occupy 2 hours. Charge for pony, 5s. The mountain may also be ascended from Torver, taking the rly. to that village, 2 m. This is much the easiest way of reaching the top, but the route is not so picturesque as the others, although if time be an object it may be preferred. The ascent from Torver can be made easily in 1½ hr. *Gates Water*, a tarn between the Old Man and the Dow Crag, is passed by this route. It has an oval form, and is about ¼ m. in circumference. It possesses a wild, savage, almost terrific, character. Three out of its 4 sides are overhung by naked, dark, lofty precipices, reft with chasms; while its fourth side is formed of an accumulation of fallen rocks. The panorama from the summit of the Old Man embraces the estuaries of the Kent, Leven, and Duddon, a long line of coast, the Isle of Man, Black Combe, Scawfell, and Bowfell. Coniston Lake is seen for its whole length, together with Esthwaite Water and part of Windermere. Snowdon may also be seen on a clear day.

Very charming walks may be taken from Coniston into Yewdale 2 m., to Griesdale 3 m., and round the bay at the upper end of the lake to the Hawkshead road and the hill above. The road to *Yewdale* turns to the rt. opposite the ch., and the shady lane by the side of Yewdale Beck is followed for about 2 m., with Yewdale crags on the l. On reaching High Yewdale the road to the rt. leads to Grasmere and that to the l. through Tilberthwaite to Langdale. At this point the scenery is highly picturesque

The road to the secluded vale of *Tilberthwaite* may be followed for a short distance, the ascent gradually opening views of Coniston and the valley, which are well worth the trouble of a short excursion. *Griesdale* lies between Coniston Lake and Windermere. It is reached by a road to the l. from the E. side of the lake. The valley is picturesque without possessing any very striking features.

The botanist will find at Coniston the following plants:—On the Old Man, *Saxifraga stellaris*; at Coniston Waterhead, *Geranium sylvaticum*; on the E. side of Coniston Lake, *Ornithopus perpusillus*; and on the high ground between Coniston and Hawkshead, *Habenaria alba*.

Instead of proceeding direct to Coniston from Ambleside, the Hawkshead road may be taken, and that town and Esthwaite Water first visited. The Hawkshead road turns off to the l. from the Coniston road, 2 m. from Ambleside.

The views, shortly after the Hawkshead road is entered, are very striking. Step on to the fell on l. of the road for a distant view of Ambleside, and of Windermere with its wooded promontories below. "Here let the tourist pause, and admire the prospect opening out before him, of the lake, of the quiet picturesque town of Ambleside, and the magnificent panoramas of mountains that encircle the whole; if he is fortunate enough to have a fine day, with a cloudless sky, he will acknowledge that English mountain scenery, if not the grandest, is among the most beautiful in Europe."—*Mackay*.

Nearly 3 m. to the E. of Coniston, is *Hawkshead (Inn)*: Old King's Head, a curious antique little town. The ch. perched on a rocky eminence is Early Norm., the pillars of the original edifice remaining. Some parts of it, however, are of the date

of Queen Elizabeth, probably altered by Archbp. Sandys, whose father and mother lie here, and are commemorated by an altar-tomb. From the ch.-yard there is a lovely view of the vale and the mountains at the back of Ambleside, and about Kirkstone Pass. An endowed *Grammar School* exists here, where Wordsworth received his early education, together with his brother, Dr. Wordsworth., the Master of Trinity College, Cambridge. Dr. Sandys, Archbishop of York, was also educated here, and bequeathed his library, chiefly theological, to the school. A member of the family which still occupies Graythwaite Hall (Rte. 45), he was the friend of Jewell, Hooker, and Crammer, and suffered imprisonment for 7 months in the Tower, on account of his opinions. He afterwards fled to the Continent, and lived for some time in exile. On his return to England, he took part in the translation of the Bible, and rose successively to the sees of Worcester, London, and York (1577-1588). The school still contains the old oak chest of the 16th centy. for keeping the charters, also the school seal, representing a pedagogue with uplifted birch. The *Town-hall* is a very curious little building.

$\frac{3}{4}$ m. distant, on the Ambleside road, is *Hawkshead Hall*, now a farmhouse, but once the property of the Abbots of Furness, where they held their manorial court; the mulioned windows over the gateway were those of the Court-room. From this road there are charming views of *Esthwaite Water*, a small lake $1\frac{1}{2}$ m. in length. The best way of seeing it is by taking the road on the W. bank past Esthwaite Hall, from

whence a lane on the l. skirts the whole of the lake bank to Hawkshead. Two promontories almost divide it, and the best view is obtained from the promontory on the W. side, looking N. Its chief feeder is a brook that rises in Yewdale Fells, while from its foot flows the *Cunsey Beck*, to connect it with Windermere. Plantations and fields alternately diversify the shores, white farmhouses are scattered over the slopes, and give to its banks a character of peace and rural seclusion. The lake abounds in trout, perch, and pike. The soil of the Vale of Hawkshead is fertile; but the cultivation of coppice-wood has been introduced as the most profitable use to which the land can be applied. A plantation is divided into 20 portions, one of which is cut every year. Much of the wood is used in the manufacture of bobbins, and charcoal is largely produced. A road runs from Hawkshead along the eastern shore of the lake to the ferry on Windermere, nearly opposite Bowness, passing through the pretty village of *Saorey* 2. m., near which the most beautiful views are obtained.

From Hawkshead to Ambleside, $6\frac{1}{2}$ m., the road runs past Hawkshead Hall on l., over rather high ground, prettily fringed with wood. On rt. is *Bletham Tarn*, soon after which a view is gained of *Wræ Castle*. Further on is the beautiful little inlet on Windermere of *Pull Bay*, and the tourist then skirts the park of *Brathay* (J. Redmayne, Esq.), and, passing through the village of Clappersgate, crosses the border to

Ambleside (*Hotels*: Salutation. Brown's, Queens, White Lion).

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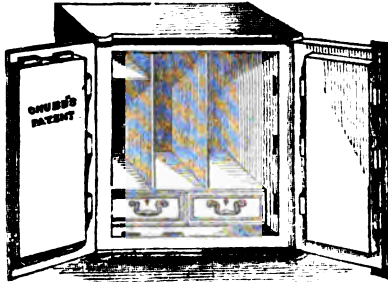
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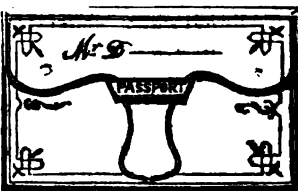
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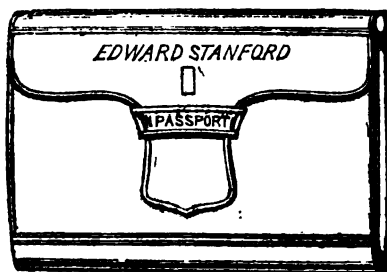
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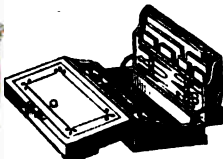
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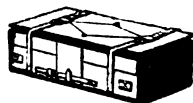
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Large Terrace and Garden attached to the Hotel.

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FIRST-CLASS PENSION, near the Hôtel de la Metropole, facing the English Garden and the Lake of Geneva. Sixty Bed Rooms and 10 Salons. First-rate Cuisine. Pension, according to the rooms and the time of the year.

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Billiard Room and elegant Dining Room.

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FIRST-CLASS. Central, and pleasantly situated. Very spacious Coffee, Dining, Reading, Smoking, and Billiard Rooms. Private Apartments *en suite*. One Hundred and Twenty Bed-rooms. Steam Lift and Laundry. Hot and Cold Baths. Telegraph Office and Post-office in the Hotel. Fixed Charges. All Omnibuses pass the door. Night Porter kept.

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HOTEL AND PENSION DE FLORENCE.

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WITH a Fine View of the Lake. Sitting-rooms and Bed-rooms newly and elegantly furnished. Good Cooking, choice Wines, moderate Prices, punctual Attendance.—Pension, price from 4 to 8 francs a day.

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This First-class Family Hotel, situated opposite the Royal Palace, and within two minutes' walk of the Exchange, is patronized by the highest class of English and American travellers, on account of its central position for either business or pleasure. The Rooms are light and airy, and the cooking particularly adapted to English taste. Table d'Hôte at three o'clock, 2s. 3d. Rooms from 2s. 3d. and upwards. English, French, and German spoken. London Times and other papers taken in.

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Near to the Royal Palaces, Museums, and Theatres.

Single travellers and large families can be accommodated with entire suites of Apartments, consisting of splendid Saloons, airy Bedrooms, &c. all furnished and carpeted in the best English style. First-rate Table-d'Hôte, Baths, Equipages, Guides. *Times* and *Galignani's Messenger* taken in. Residence of Her British Majesty's Messengers.

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THIS fine large Establishment, situated on the public Promenade of the English quarter, in the immediate vicinity of all the curiosities, contains ONE HUNDRED ROOMS. Table d'Hôte at One and Five o'clock,

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READING ROOM WITH ENGLISH AND AMERICAN PAPERS.

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Proprietor and Manager of the Hotel,

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THIS First-class Hotel, containing 36 Salons and 170 Bed-rooms, a separate Breakfast, a very extensive and elegant Dining-room, new Reading and Conversation as well as Smoking Salons, with an artificial Garden over the river, is situated opposite the Bath and Conversation House, and in the immediate vicinity of the Promenade.

It is celebrated for its elegant and comfortable apartments, good cuisine and cellar, and deserves its wide-spread reputation as an excellent hotel. Table-d'hôte at One and Five o'clock. Breakfasts and Suppers à la carte.

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Correspondent of the principal Banking-houses of London for the payment of Circular Notes and Letters of Credit.

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FOUR SEASONS HOTEL & BATHS.

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THIS First-Class Establishment, equal to any on the Rhine, is in the best and most delightful situation in the Great Square, opposite the Kursaal, the Theatre, the Promenades; close to the Boiling Spring and the new English Chapel.

This Hotel is the largest in the place, containing a great choice of

SPLENDID AND COMFORTABLE APARTMENTS,

for Families and Single Travellers; exquisite Cuisine and first-class Wines, combined with attentive service and moderate charges.

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IT IS ONE OF THE MOST PLEASANTLY SITUATED HOTELS IN DIEPPE, commanding a beautiful and extensive View of the Sea.

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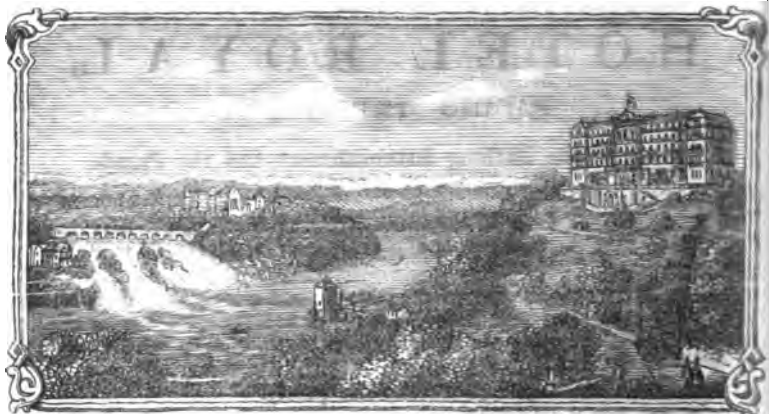
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EXCELLENT Second-class Hotel, very well situated, containing a branch "Pension Felsenegg," with a fine Garden attached. It has been recently enlarged and newly furnished, and contains 80 Beds. Boarders taken in, per day 54 francs during the months of May, June, September, October; and 64 francs per day during the months of July, and August. English, French, and German Newspapers. Omnibuses; Private Carriages, and Saddle Horses. English spoken. Moderate charges.

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THIS Hotel can be strongly recommended: It is in one of the best situations in Genoa, and travellers will find there very good rooms, moderate charges, cleanliness, excellent Table-d'hôte, as well as private service, with great attention and civility; the comfort of visitors being consulted.

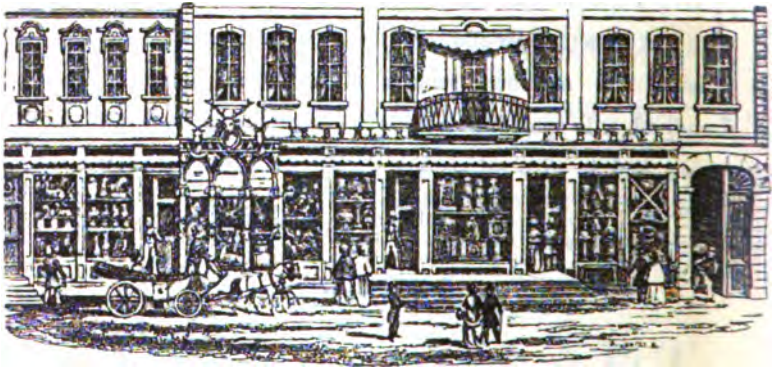
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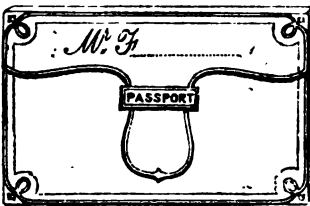
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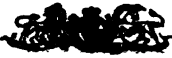
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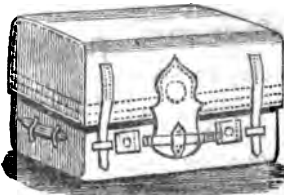
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